THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. VIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 162.] LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1848. [PRICE 6d.

SEPARATION of CHURCH and STATE.—IRISH ROMAN CATHOLIC ENDOWMENT.—PUBLIC MEETINGS of the BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION will be held at the Rosemary Branch, Peckham, THIS EVENING, WILLIAM EDWARDS, Esq., in the Chair; the Literary Institution, Greenwich, on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10, D. W. WIRE, Esq., in the Chair. To commence each evening at Seven o'clock.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.
New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

WHITTINGTON CLUB and METROPOLITAN ATHENÆUM, 189, Strand.

On Thursday Evening next (to-morrow), Dec. 21st, HENRY HURSEE, Esq., will deliver a Lecture "ON THE POPULAR SONGS OF THE LAST CENTURY," with Illustrations.

This Lecture will be succeeded by others on subjects of interest and importance, one of which will be delivered every Thursday till April 26th, 1849, inclusive.

Admission to Lectures:—Members free, on producing their Tickets, with the privilege of obtaining Tickets for their friends at Sixpence each. Non-Subscribers, One Shilling.

Ladies and Gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Institution may obtain forms of application, and all further information, of the Secretary.

P. BERLYN, Secretary.

189, Strand, December 16th, 1848.

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Classes are established for the study and practice of languages, chemistry, vocal music, elocution, mathematics, historic and dramatic literature, discussion, fencing, dancing, &c. Weekly *réunions* are held every Tuesday evening in the drawing-room, for conversation, music, and other entertainments, to which the members are free; and every facility is afforded for such other studies and amusements as are demanded by the members.

LECTURES.

The following Lectures will terminate the Session 1848-49:—

Jan. 4, 11, 18, 1849—Three Lectures on the Value and Importance of India as an Integral Part of the British Empire. By George Thompson, Esq., M.P.

Jan. 25 and Feb. 1, 1849—Two Lectures on the Progress of Secular Music in England during the Seventeenth Century. By Sir Henry R. Bishop, Prof. Mus. Oxon. With Vocal Illustrations by the Misses Williams, Mr. A. Novello, and Mr. Williams.

Feb. 8, 1849—One Lecture on Social Development. By the Rev. J. A. Baynes, B.A., of Nottingham.

Feb. 15, 22, 1849—Two Lectures on the Chemistry of the Sun's Rays. By Robert Hunt, Esq., Author of "Researches on Light," "The Poetry of Science," &c.

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 1849—Four Lectures on Palestine, or the Holy Land. By J. Silk Buckingham, Esq.

March 27, 29, and April 3, 5, 10, 12, 1849—Six Lectures on the Physical Structure of the Solar System. By a Distinguished Astronomer, with whom negotiations are in progress.

April 19, 26, 1849—Two Lectures on Things Not Seen. By George Dawson, Esq., M.A., of Birmingham.

The Members have Free Admission to the Lectures, of which detailed syllabuses may be had on application at the Institution.

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P. BERLYN, Secretary.

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AT a SPECIAL MEETING of the Board, held on MONDAY, Dec. 18th, 1848,

The Rev. JOHN BURNET in the chair,

It was resolved unanimously,—

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"That a petition to the House of Commons, founded on the foregoing resolution, be prepared, and be signed by the members of this Board."

"That it be recommended to the churches and congregations represented by the members of the Board to prepare similar petitions with the least possible delay."

(Signed) ROBT. ASHTON, Secretary.

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THE CHRISTIAN BRETHREN Meeting in FARRINGDON-HALL, on Sunday Evenings, at Half-past Six, propose, in addition to Reading the Scriptures, Singing, &c., to have the following LECTURES delivered:—

December 31, 1848.—The Development of the Human Mind by Christian Training or Education, by GEORGE RAIT.

The Individual Right of Interpretation, or the Right of Private Judgment, by JOHN EPPS.

January 7, 1849.—The Evidences of the Divine Origin of the Christian Revelation, by THOMAS DICK.

God's Government of the World, by T. M'OUBREY.

January 14.—The aim of Christianity—the health, the vigour, and the excellence of Man, in all the qualities of his Nature, by ROBERT S. DICK.

The Individual Right of Interpretation, or the Right of Private Judgment, by JOHN EPPS.

January 21.—The Development of the Human Mind by Christian Training and Education, by GEORGE RAIT.

The Individual Right of Interpretation, or the Right of Private Judgment, by JOHN EPPS.

January 28.—The Evidences of the Divine Origin of the Christian Revelation, by THOMAS DICK.

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February 4.—The aim of Christianity—the health, the vigour, and the excellence of Man, in all the qualities of his Nature, by ROBERT S. DICK.

The Objections to the Individual Right of Interpretation considered, by JOHN EPPS.

February 11.—The Evidences of the Divine Origin of the Christian Revelation, by THOMAS DICK.

God's Government of the World, by T. M'OUBREY.

February 18.—The accordance between the Mosaic account of Creation and the facts of Geology, by GEORGE RAIT.

The Individual Right of Teaching, by JOHN EPPS.

February 25.—The aim of Christianity, &c., by ROBERT S. DICK.

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THOMAS HERBERT BOYKETT,
Returning Officer for the said Borough.

9, Chancery-lane, December 16, 1848.

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The Subscription to the Society is One Guinea per annum; or, for Reserved Seats numbered, Two Guineas.

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"I am, dear sir, yours truly,
"To R. Davison, Esq. JAMES COPLAND, M.D."

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HALSE'S LETTERS on MEDICAL GALVANISM.

LETTER I.

PARALYSIS.—TO INVALIDS.—GALVANISM has for a long time been resorted to as a powerful remedial agent, but, unfortunately, it has been applied by men totally ignorant of its principles. Can it, therefore, be wondered at, that it has so frequently failed of producing any beneficial effects? My great improvement in the Galvanic Apparatus was a method to regulate its power to the greatest nicety; so that an infant may be galvanized without experiencing the least unpleasantness; but no sooner do I make it public that I have made this discovery, than a host of imitators spring up like mushrooms, and state that they are also in possession of the secret, and by all I hear, a very pretty mess they make of their secret. Now all the world knows how eminently successful I have been in cases of paralysis, particularly in recent cases; this success I attribute entirely to my superior method of regulating the power of the galvanic apparatus; for, without a perfect regulating power, it is utterly impossible to produce successful results. Scarcely a week passes but I have two or three patients who have been either galvanized by some pretender, or have been using that ridiculous apparatus called the electro-magnetic or electro-galvanic apparatus, and, as may be reasonably expected, without the slightest benefit. Many pretenders in the country, having heard of my great success, and my high standing as a medical galvanist in London, have made it public that they have received instructions from me, and are acting as my agents; and not satisfied with this, are actually selling apparatuses, representing them to be mine. I shall, of course, endeavour to put a stop to this; in the mean time I now state, that my galvanic apparatuses can be procured of me only, as I employ no agents whatever. I will now endeavour to show how galvanism acts in cases of paralysis. Paralysis, or palsy, consists of three varieties—the hemiplegic, the paraplegic, and the local palsy. In the first, the patient is paralysed on one side only; in the second, the lower part of the body is affected on both sides; and in the third kind, particular limbs are affected. The cause of the attacks is the withdrawal of nervous influence from the nerves and muscles of the various parts. Now Galvanism has been proved by the most eminent physiologists to be capable of supplying the nervous influence to those parts of the body which may be deficient of it, and hence the reason of its astonishing effect in cases of paralysis. In patients thus afflicted I find that some parts of the spine are less sensitive than other parts, and until those parts are aroused into action the patient will not recover. Any medical man who knows anything of Galvanism will be at once convinced how applicable Galvanism must be for such complaints; for not only does it arouse the dormant nerves and muscles into action, but it supplies them with that fluid of which they are deficient—viz., the nervous fluid. I think it, however, but fair to state that, in cases of paralysis of long duration I as frequently fail as succeed; whilst in recent cases I generally succeed. Still Galvanism should be resorted to in every case of paralysis, no matter of how long duration it might have been; for it cannot possibly do any harm, and it may do good. I repeat, Galvanism is a powerful remedy in cases of paralysis.

GALVANISM.—Invalids are solicited to send to Mr. W. H. HALSE, of 22, Brunswick-square, for his pamphlet on MEDICAL GALVANISM, which will be forwarded free on receipt of two postage stamps. They will be astonished at its contents. In it will be found the particulars of cures in cases of asthma, rheumatism, sciatica, tic doloreux, paralysis, spinal complaints, headaches, deficiency of nervous energy, liver complaints, general debility, indigestion, stiff joints, all sorts of nervous disorders, &c. Mr. Halse's method of applying the Galvanic Fluid is quite free from all unpleasant sensation; in fact, it is rather pleasurable than otherwise, and many ladies are exceedingly fond of it. It quickly causes the patient to do without medicine. Terms, One Guinea per week.

WILLIAM HOOPER HALSE,
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THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

MISTRUST OF PRINCIPLE AVENGED.

A FEW years ago, a friend of ours set off to walk from one town to another, both of which shall be nameless, in the West of England, distant from each other about ten miles. Nearly midway between the two there is a long hill, the crest of which our pedestrian had just gained, when he was overtaken by a clergyman of extensive fame, driving himself in a double-bodied open vehicle, "alone in his glory." The gentleman on foot was not sorry when he in the carriage pulled up, and politely asked him if he would like a ride. Having already walked quite enough for contentment, he thankfully accepted the offer, and was accommodated with a seat, not beside, but behind the clergyman. Upon reaching the foot of the hill, however, the ease to which he had resigned himself was cruelly disturbed by the sudden stoppage of the vehicle, and an intimation from the clergyman, that he might now get out again—that his company had been requested only for the purpose of steadying the carriage during its progress down hill, by throwing a proportionate weight upon the hind wheels; and that this service having been rendered, he was at liberty to pursue the rest of his journey afoot. The state of mind in which our friend complied with this demand may be readily imagined. Alternate fits of amusement and indignation occupied him till he reached home.

This gentleman, then young, was a Dissenter—and his treatment on this occasion by the clergyman, was an apt type of the mode in which Dissent in general is dealt with by the Established Church. When the latter has a selfish purpose to achieve, its offers of civility to the former are very condescending, and surprising from their rarity. But any trust in them, as proceeding from disinterested kindness, is sure of disappointment. When the Church has gained her object, she dismisses Dissent without ceremony, and without thanks.

What the Establishment does with the sects outside its pale, some men do with their principles—give them a lift when it suits their own purpose, abandon them to their own vital energy when that purpose has been served. Certain awkward results are sure to follow this conduct, in whatever department of life it may be resorted to—and these results, we think, may be discerned in the progress and issue of the West Riding election. They deserve to be noted as a salutary warning to the future.

Sir Culling Eardley came into the field to protest against the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy of Ireland. He put in a prominent light the injustice of drawing from the resources of Protestants, the means of upholding an ecclesiastical system to which they were decidedly averse. He was compelled, as a man of candour, to admit, that the endowment of Protestants lay open to precisely the same objection. His principle was, and, indeed, was avowed to be, the impolicy, and injustice, of State provision for the maintenance of religion. How did he treat this principle? To him, it appeared an object of primary importance, to prevent the erection of a co-establishment of Romanism with Anglicism in Ireland. Up to this point, he is ready to give his principle "a cast." But he protests against any intention of helping it to "its journey's end." The mischief which he fears having been staved off, he has accommodated the principle to the full extent of his present desire. Having by means of it got safely down the hill, he coolly dismisses it to its own powers. We have been both amused and grieved by the earnestness with which he and some of his leading friends, have averred that the West Riding election was not meant to deliver a verdict on State support of religion, or no State support. They had already precluded themselves from narrowing the question to one of creeds, by making an appeal to common justice and equity—and by refusing to carry their principle beyond a point of present convenience, they placed their cause in the most damaging position. Let us see what has happened in this case, and what in all similar cases is sure to happen.

Without imputing to Sir Culling Eardley, or to his more active friends, any personal dishonesty, we are bound to confess that they placed the question at stake upon a basis which, to most of their own supporters, and all their antagonists, was unfair, unmanly, and open to severe but just animadversion. Sir Culling, objecting specially to the endowment of Roman Catholicism as the endowment of *error*, is comparatively silent, in his addresses to electors, on what he deems the evils of Popery. He enforces his point by appealing to the aid of general principles—and when taxed with contemplating the ends to which those principles unerringly point, he declares that he has no intention of applying them to such an extent. He would seem, consequently, to have hoped to conciliate opponents, by exhibiting only so much of a truth as might awaken their sympathy, and to inspirit his friends by the use of arguments implying a vast deal more than was practically meant. That hope, if ever it existed, was necessarily doomed to a double disappointment.

We will not undertake to say what would have been the result of this contest if Sir Culling Eardley had announced his readiness to deal out impartial injustice to those enjoying, as well as to those anticipating, a State provision for their religious teachers. But sure we are, that it was impossible for him to ground his refusal of endowments upon their essential injustice, leaving them, at the same time, to operate in favour of a small minority, and protesting against his intention of disturbing them in their monopoly, without paralyzing all legitimate enthusiasm on the part of his supporters. Most of them must have felt that they were exposed to a cross-fire—and that their own credit for sincerity was cruelly endangered. Party zeal, desire of victory, and that heat which opposition always engenders, may have infused energy into their movements. But the satisfaction of placing before the world a great truth, and doing honour to it as such, was denied them. An air of insincerity enveloped their cause—and an undercurrent of weakness and indifference could not but be created. What is done with but half a will, is usually done badly. West Riding Liberalism smoked rather than kindled. Of course there was fire, but it was neither clear nor steady. How could it be? Abstract principles interest men only as they are sought to be applied—and nobody who loves a truth, cares to see it treated as the clergyman treated our friend—asked to ride behind to the bottom of a hill, and then unceremoniously dismissed.

But this timid, half-and-half method of applying principles is as unlikely to conciliate foes, as to encourage friends. *They* never heed reservations, unless perfectly compatible with practical sincerity. They give your principle its widest interpretation, and then justify their opposition to it by a reference to your evident misgivings. Credit for moderation is not gained—but suspicion of dishonesty is. So it has been in the West Riding. The Tory and Whig coalition have fought this battle, as one of endowment *versus* voluntaryism. In vain did Sir Culling and the *Leeds Mercury* protest that they were aiming at a point far short of this great question. All that they took by their want of courage was the disadvantage of being precluded from explaining and defending their own principle. The Tory press, therefore, did it for them, and then accused them, not without plausibility, of skulking. And when all is over, and Mr. Beckett Denison has secured his seat, forth comes the *Times* to charge Sir Culling and his party with having declared "for a sacrilegious spoliation of the Church"—to insinuate it as more than probable, inasmuch as he has not told us what he would do with the property, that he would not object to the reversion of tithes to the landholder—and to assume that the first result of the triumph of voluntaryism, would be "to turn 15,000 clergymen out of house and home." These are the rewards—well-merited, we think—of treating an avowed principle with visible distrust. The adversary takes advantage of your self-imposed silence, and chooses to impute to you the most extravagant designs.

Here, then, we bid adieu to the West Riding election—a great national contest robbed of more than half its moral effect, and, perhaps, lost, through the bungling of timidity. We regret it the more, since, in other respects, Sir Culling Eardley won upon us as he proceeded. The spirit and gallantry with which he stood to the point on which he had selected to give battle to the enemy, are worthy of admiration. The original and incurable blunder was in choosing an untenable position—exposed to hot fire from every side, and yet too narrow to allow of vigorous action to his own supporters. Sir Culling showed all the qualities of generalship but one—sound judgment. He took up his ground so badly that victory could have gained for his cause no great accession of moral strength—defeat has left it with scarcely a single compensatory advantage. No subsequent energy, promptitude, or presence of mind, could redeem that fatal mistake. Under any conditions he might perchance have been doomed to lose the day—but it was competent to him and to his staff to have converted loss itself into a triumph. Excessive caution has ruined him. Had he ventured more, he would have won something—as it is, he has lost all.

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

A public meeting at Peckham this evening will close the labours of the Anti-state-church Association for the present year. Early in the new year meetings are to be held at Greenwich and at Kingsland, and Mr. Kingsley is to lecture at several places in the vicinity of London. The next district to be visited by a deputation will, we believe, be the county of Essex, it being intended that meetings or lectures shall be arranged for in most of the towns and larger villages.

DISCUSSION AT NOTTINGHAM. — Mr. Clementson, the clergyman who took part at the recent meeting at Nottingham, has at length accepted the challenge of Mr. Thompson, M.P., to discuss the question of Church Establishments. The arrangements have not yet been made, but the discussion will, we understand, take place shortly after Christmas.

ALDWINKLE. — A lecture on the separation of Church and State was delivered in the Baptist Chapel, in this place, by J. Kingsley, Esq., on Tuesday, Dec. 12th; the Rev. T. Brooks, minister of the place, in the chair. The lecture was listened to very attentively throughout, and the interest greatly increased by the objections raised by one of the audience to the statements of the lecturer respecting Church property and the incomes of the bishops. Mr. Kingsley, however, entered thoroughly into an examination of the subject, and completely silenced his opponent.

THRAPSTONE.—The first lecture ever listened to in this town on the separation of Church and State, was delivered by John Kingsley, Esq., on Wednesday evening, Dec. 13th, in the large room at the King's Arms Inn. Mr. Kingsley was heard with very marked attention for nearly two hours, after which the Chairman invited any persons present to state their objections, or to make their inquiries, an invitation which was accepted both by Churchman

and Dissenter. The utmost courtesy towards the lecturer was manifested by both these parties, and the interest of the meeting much enhanced by the remarks thus elicited. All parties present evinced a warm interest in the matter, and some declared their readiness to remain until the morning if necessary. It was an excellent meeting for Thrapstone. The room was crowded, and those who came late found it difficult to effect an entrance.

Mr. Kingsley has also been lecturing at Oundle and Wellingborough; and this week he is to visit Boston, Peterborough, Wisbech, and Horncastle. The three last-named towns are places in which the Association has never before made any movement. Indeed, the same thing may be said of Lincolnshire generally; but it is intended that lectures shall shortly be delivered all over the county.

Lynn.—A public meeting was held at the Temperance-hall, on Friday, at which a deputation was present, representing the Anti-state-church Association in London. The chair was taken by Mr. John Keed, who, after a few remarks, introduced J. H. Tillett, Esq., of Norwich, who delivered a lecture upon the evils resulting from the union of the Church with the State. Mr. Tillett descanted with much energy on the subject, and drew several very happy pictures of the process observed in "bishop" making, and the apportioning of the clergy; and, in a very lucid and masterly manner, condemned a system alike opposed to Scripture and to good sense. —*Norfolk News.* [Meetings of the Anti-state-church Association have also lately been held in several other places in Norfolk.]

THE EPISCOPAL FUND AND EPISCOPAL SPOLIATION.

(From the *Daily News.*)

When Dr. Bagot was Bishop of Oxford, with scarcely £2,000 a year, he was obliged to put up with divers defects in the episcopal palace at Cuddesden. But no sooner was Dr. Wilberforce raised to that see, with £4,500 a year, than the palace was discovered to be uninhabitable. With the smaller income, Dr. Bagot was compelled to live in it unrepaired; but, with double the income of his predecessor, Dr. Wilberforce was allowed to throw the cost of its repairs and decorations on the Episcopal Fund. For these purposes the Ecclesiastical Commission consented at first to grant the Bishop of Oxford the sum of £3,500; but on the express condition, incorporated in an Order in Council, that all expenses "over and above the said sum of £3,500 shall be defrayed by the said Samuel, Bishop of Oxford, his executors or administrators." That sum was, however, quickly spent; and, being exhausted, the Bishop attended the Board, and produced a plan for beautifying the episcopal gardens at Cuddesden, for which, of course, he had no funds. The Commission willingly yielded to the voice of the charmer, and the Episcopal Fund was forthwith charged with £1,300 more, that Samuel, by divine providence, Lord Bishop of Oxford, might indulge his elegant tastes in the fashionable science of horticulture, and carry off prizes at flower-shows. Nor did the expenditure on Cuddesden stop here; for a few months after, the Ecclesiastical Commission, *at a board meeting when there were fifteen episcopal and only two lay commissioners present*, authorized the Bishop of Oxford to charge his see with £1,700 more, to pay the balance of unauthorized expenditure due in respect of the adornment of Cuddesden Palace.

Encouraged by the success of his successor in the see of Oxford, Dr. Bagot quickly found out that the episcopal palace at Wells was in a sad plight; it wanted bedrooms, it wanted stables—in short, there was no end of its wants. But Dr. Bagot's application for the means to supply all these wants came too late. Dr. Wilberforce had been beforehand with him. The younger and wilier prelate had exhausted the episcopal funds for the present. But where there is a will there is a way. And so, unable to give him the money, the Ecclesiastical Commission authorized Dr. Bagot to borrow £4,000, and lay it out on the palace at Wells, and kindly charged the Episcopal Fund with the payment of the annual interest on the amount so raised. And of the £4,000 for which the episcopal fund is thus pledged, Dr. Bagot, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, spent a part in building a conservatory, and thereby blocked up from view a window of the episcopal chapel which was the admiration of all who saw it.

Is the Episcopal Fund, or any other fund, safe in such hands?

Yet these are, as we shall show, trifling cases of its wanton waste.

Dr. Phillpott's Scheme for more Bishops.—In spite of the lavish expenditure which has been, or can hereafter be made, on bishops' palaces, on episcopal gardens, and on prelatical coach-houses and stables, there will still (when the act of 1836 comes into full operation) be a balance of no less than £16,000 a year in favour of this Episcopal Fund. It appears that by episcopal manœuvring the Episcopal Fund has been separated from the Fund for the Extension of the Parochial System. The Bishop of London, according to the *Daily News*, proposes to appropriate the supplies of £16,000 to an extension of the Church. He looks forward to its still unappropriated balance of £16,000 a year as a source whence not only to endow the three new bishopries of Southwell, St. Alban's, and Bodmin, which he has seduced Lord John Russell into the folly of contemplating, but he confidently talks of applying some part of this annual sum to the extension of the episcopal order in our colonies. A very pretty plot to waste the means of the Church. One, too, that might have been successful had ministers only procured in the Bishopric of Manchester Act, the legislative sanction they sought to Dr. Blomfield's extravagant scheme of Bishop (as counter distinguished from Church) Extension.

The Bishop of London, it is stated, has just had a case of some importance referred to him. It is alleged that a clergyman who officiates at a fashionable church in London, long remarkable for its forms and ceremonies, advised one of his congregation who was about to travel to communicate with the Church of Rome whilst absent from England. This advice has been submitted to the bishop as highly reprehensible, and the decision of the diocesan is looked for with great interest by the rev. gentleman's congregation.

Church Reform.—In March last a deputation—consisting of Lord Harrowby, Lord Ashley, Lord Robert Grosvenor, and Mr. Colquhoun—had an interview with the Premier, and it transpired that the subject of their conference was connected with the Church. A little later in the session, Mr. Horsman, in withdrawing his motion, gave Lord John Russell a distinct intimation, that he should inquire, on the very first day of the next session, what progress the Government had made in maturing its plans of Church reform. Bearing these circumstances in mind, it is no matter of surprise when we remark, that Mr. C. K. Murray, the Secretary of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, has recently paid several visits to Lord John. We can hardly doubt that the very opening week of the coming session will produce some movement in this direction on the part of the Government. As to the plans submitted to the Premier in March last, about these there is no longer any mystery. Mr. Colquhoun has made the whole public, in a brief pamphlet, which contains, first, nine propositions laid before Lord John in the March conference; and, secondly, four letters addressed to Lord John by himself (Mr. Colquhoun) in explanation of the whole project. The nine recommendations of the deputation were as follows:—1. That the Ecclesiastical Commission should be remodelled. 2. That the value of the estates of the bishops and cathedral chapters should be ascertained, and the amount rendered available for spiritual purposes. 3. That the archbishops and bishops should be endowed with certain fixed incomes; and that the surplus of their estates should fall into the ecclesiastical fund. 4. That this fund should be applied to make spiritual provision for the people, by the endowment of new districts. 5. That periodical returns should be made of the spiritual necessities of each diocese. 6. That new sees should be formed in such numbers as to secure the vigilant oversight of dioceses—the new bishops not having seats in Parliament, and being endowed with incomes of £2,000 per annum, and with residences. 7. The existing deaneries to be raised into bishoprics, thus providing easily for a considerable number of new bishops, without any demand for new funds. 8. Voluntary contributions towards the new bishoprics to be solicited. 9. The remaining canonries and minor canonries to be annexed to ill-endowed benefices in populous places. Such is an outline of the plan or scheme of "Church Extension and Reform" submitted to Lord John Russell in March last; and we doubt not that, in the course of a few weeks, we shall find some plan, not very dissimilar, laid before the House of Commons by the Government.—*Record.*

Rochdale Church-Rate.—A few weeks ago, the ratepayers of the parish of Rochdale were called together for the purpose of making a church-rate, when a motion was submitted and carried for one farthing in the pound. As soon as this was done, Mr. Livsey stood up and said that the proceedings were illegal, as no estimate of the expenses had been laid before the meeting. On account of this, the wardens have not attempted to collect it, as it would be in vain to collect a church-rate in Rochdale. The wardens are willing to raise money by a voluntary subscription, but the vicar refuses to let them have the use of the church for that purpose. The wardens have been served with an order of the following kind from the Rural Dean, F. R. Raines, M.A.:—"By virtue of a commission issued to me by the Lord Bishop of Manchester, I have this day (Nov. 27) visited your parish church, and I find that the following things are required in and about the church, and I respectfully beg that you will provide and attend to the same. Should you not do so, I have to request that you will inform me, under your hand and that of your vicar, what reasons have induced you so to act, on the 27th February, 1849." The repairs which are considered necessary are here set down, and the letter concludes with the following sentence:—"The church is in a very filthy state, and requires a thorough cleansing."—*Leeds Mercury.*

Puseyite Homily on Mr. Noel's Secession.—That this secession, or deposition from the ministry, will do good, cannot be doubted. It will show the "Evangelical" clergy that one of the most able and amiable of their class finds his position practically, as well as theoretically, untenable—that Dissenting principles, if honestly held, and honestly carried out, are utterly inconsistent with an honest performance of those duties which the Church imposes upon her ministers. Deeply have the "Evangelical" clergy seared their consciences, misled their flocks, and impaired the unity and efficiency of the Church, by so long "halting between two opinions:" better that they should follow Mr. Noel's example, than that they should hold his principles, and retain their position in the Church.—*English Churchman.*

The great clock for the Victoria Tower of the new Houses of Parliament is to strike the hours on a bell of from eight to ten tons weight, chime the quarters on eight bells, and show time on four dials of thirty feet in diameter.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Shrewsbury.—On Thursday, the 14th, services were held in connexion with the public recognition of Mr. W. P. Williams, late of Bristol College, as pastor of the Baptist Church meeting in Claremont-street Chapel, Shrewsbury. At ten in the morning, the Rev. J. P. Mursell, of Leicester, delivered a most brilliant and powerful address, distinguished by his lofty grasp of thought and beauty and force of expression, on the duties of Dissenters at the present crisis. After which, the Rev. Dr. Cox, of Hackney, addressed the minister from 2 Cor. iv. 2. "By manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." The doctor's discourse was an admirable one, and marked throughout by his peculiarly affectionate and telling manner. In the evening, at half-past six, Mr. Mursell again preached to a large and deeply riveted audience, and in conclusion most appropriately addressed the assembled church on some of the peculiar obligations resting upon them in their relation to their respected, devoted, and talented young minister, whose active labours amongst them, for upwards of twelve months, have been encouragingly blessed in a large addition of young persons to their number. At the close, the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was administered. It was a day long and deservedly to be remembered. The other ministers who took part in these interesting services, were, the Revs. Messrs. Pugh (Primitive Methodist); Hilton (New Connexion); Mather and Powis (Wesleyans); Hill (Independent); Wrigley, Keay, Grainger, and Sargent (Baptists).

Reduction in the Navy.—The *United Service Gazette* states that Government intend to propose a reduction of 3,000 seamen in the coming session.

Latter-Day Saints in Perth.—On Sabbath night, a number of the disciples of Joe Smith were observed wending their way through the town, as if bent on some special purpose; the little company, by the adhesion of the wonder-seekers, as they went along, was soon augmented into a crowd that continued to enlarge till it reached the side of the river on the North Inch, where it halted; when two men and a woman, after being surrounded by their respective friends, began to strip in the moon-light, and were forthwith led into the Tay in succession, and severally baptized in the new faith by immersion. The scene was a strange one, but more revolting than solemn, and ill calculated, in our opinion, to operate wooingly on the imagination and feelings of aspirants. The moon shone coldly down on the glassy river, which, o'ergorged by the melted snows of Breadalbane and Rannoch, rushed unheedingly and heartlessly past.—*Perth Advertiser.*

Extraordinary Accouchement.—A correspondent states that last Friday night, between 11 and 12 o'clock, as a man and his wife, vendors of salt, were on their way home, through Hanbury Forest-lane, the poor woman was taken in labour. There was no shelter near, the night was very inclement, rain falling in torrents, and in these circumstances there was no other course left to the man than to lay his suffering wife by the road side, and to proceed two miles to Feckenham for surgical aid. Accordingly he hastened there, and returned accompanied by Mr. Harrison, surgeon, of that place, by whose assistance the poor woman was safely delivered about one o'clock. To add to the indescribable misery of the occurrence, the wretched mother had not a rag of clothing for her babe—thus born in the damp grass, with a tempestuous wintry sky for its only covering. It was between 9 and 10 o'clock next morning before any nourishment was procured for the poor woman; and, strange to say, no effort to remove her seems to have been made. A farmer in the neighbourhood sent some straw for her to lie upon, and there she remained till a brook rising, four days afterwards, threatened to wash this miserable bed from under her! Our informant states that this was the poor creature's first child, and that she had once seen better days. After paying for medical assistance, the unfortunate couple were left with sixpence, their sole pecuniary resource.—*Worcester Herald.*

Great Meeting in the Manchester Free-trade Hall.—Arrangements are commenced for holding a monster meeting of free traders, financial reformers, and others, in the Free Trade-hall, in Manchester, on Thursday, the 4th of January next. Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Brotherton, Colonel Thompson, and several other veteran Reformers, are expected to be present, and take part in the proceedings. Measures will be adopted in furtherance of financial reform, an extension of the franchise, and a more enlarged and comprehensive system of registration of voters. It is understood that Mr. Cobden intends to submit a sort of budget to the meeting, showing that savings to a very large amount can be effected in the army, the ordnance, and the navy, without endangering the defences of the country. A very crowded meeting is expected.

The *Daily News* says, "We have it on the best authority that ministers, yielding to the force of the representations made to them by the commercial interests of the north, have consented that a secret committee of the House of Commons shall be appointed next session, to inquire into the expediency of limiting the responsibility of the proprietors of joint-stock banks." [The inquiry should extend also to the conduct of directors, and to advances made to or taken by them.]

The gauge of the Arbroath and Forfar portion of the Aberdeen Railway has been altered from 5 feet 6 inches to what is termed the national or narrow gauge of 4 feet 8½ inches; so that there is now a uniform gauge from London to Perth, Dundee and Aberdeen.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DISSENTING MINISTERS AND CHILDREN'S CHAPELS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—"An Old Sabbath-school Teacher," who has addressed to you a letter on the interesting subject of Children's Chapels, earnestly recommends an energetic and intelligent attempt to heartily grapple with the difficulties by which it is, confessedly, surrounded. Concurring in the suggestion, I take the liberty of pointing the attention of our Sunday-school reformers to a "difficulty," which possibly may not have entered into their calculations, but which requires to be grappled with *very* heartily both by them and by others, wherever it may make its appearance.

If your readers will turn to the *Evangelical Magazine* for this month, they will find an article on this very subject, entitled (in the table of contents), "Ominous Proposal in reference to Sunday-schools." On the article generally, and its arguments against separate services for children, I make no comment, but let the following "ominous" and significant passages, with which the editor closes his remarks, be very carefully read. After alluding to the scarcity of competent "children's preachers," he says, "We may, here and there, find an individual who can conduct, with discretion and effect, the proposed religious service; but will intelligent children *mistake all this for the stated ministry of the Word?* Or ought they to be taught *to confound the agent in question, however highly qualified, with the regularly constituted pastor of the Christian church?* We think not. Let Sunday-school teachers put forth their full energies in perfecting the Sabbath-school system. They have an ample field here, without *stepping out of their legitimate province.* Let them not seek to deprive the pastor of the place he has hitherto occupied. Let not the great link between him and the Sunday-school be severed. . . . We plead *the infringed rights of the pastor and church.* . . . We protest with earnestness against *the establishment or the recognition of any secondary pastorate in our churches.* . . .

We claim for every Christian pastor that he stand at the head of his own school, and *that no man presume to take his place.*"

Now it may be that the strength of the editor's attachment to the young, and his zeal for their welfare, have led him to adopt language somewhat equivocal and unguarded, or it is quite likely that I may have put an erroneous construction upon it; but, in my own mind, the passage has certainly produced some very uncomfortable and dissatisfied feelings—has, in fact, rather shocked me by its priestly air and by its suspicious resemblance to some of those Puseyistical notions which awhile ago the author of the "Homilies for the Times" did something to demolish. But let your readers do the editor justice, by reading the article for themselves, and then they can judge whether I am, after all, but a silly alarmist, or only a faithful WATCHMAN.

THE TRAINING OF SABBATH-SCHOOL TEACHERS.—On Monday evening, the 18th inst., a lecture was delivered in the school-rooms of Maberly Chapel, "On the Importance of Training Sunday-school Teachers," by Mr. Dunning, the head master of the Training School, in Gray's-inn-road. The lecturer commenced by congratulating Sunday-school teachers on what they have already accomplished, and on the deeply interesting position they now occupy in agitating the question, which was on the occasion to occupy his own attention, and that of his audience. The nature of training was next explained, and the drift of the lecturer's remarks appeared to be, that this school at Gray's-inn-road consists in making candidate teachers well acquainted with the principles of the human mind; familiar with rules and plans of teaching, drawn from these principles; and expert in applying them in the practice of the school-room. The lecturer next laid down some important fundamental principles, on which he based the importance of the training of Sunday-school teachers. The main proposition of the lecture was based on the following arguments:—1st. That there is an art in teaching. 2nd. That the art is of a peculiar nature. 3rd. That the immature intellect of a child does not receive ideas as does the mature intellect of an adult. 4th. That it is the business of the Sunday-school teacher not only to instruct his children, but to exercise and discipline their minds. 5th. The nature and range of the subjects contained in the Scriptures. 6th. The peculiar nature and beauty of the language of the Bible. 7th. The advantage that would arise from the general training of Sunday-school teachers. These were all supported by clear and convincing exposition and illustration, and the lecture was listened to throughout with the most fixed attention.

HOME-MADE WILLS.—The following cases were heard in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury a few days since:—Mary Howell, deceased—Probate refused, on the ground that the will was written on one side of a sheet of paper only, while the signatures were inscribed on the other. Jonathan Birch, deceased—Probate refused, in consequence of blanks left for legacies having been filled up in red ink. Jane Corner, deceased—Probate refused, on the ground stated in the case of Mary Howell. William Sanger, deceased—Probate refused, on the ground of the character of certain alterations made in the will. Esther Powell, deceased—Application for probate opposed, because the same will was signed by the testatrix by two names, those of "Powell" and "Watkins." Probate granted, on the testimony of a clergyman, who knew the signatures to be those of one and the same person. Elizabeth Rose, deceased—The will of the testatrix was only discovered twelve years after her decease, and some years after the death of the party who had administered to the property. Probate granted.

A new telegraph company has been established, called the Scottish Electric Telegraph Company, for supplying the chief towns and cities of the North,

THE WORKING CLASSES AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I was very much pleased whilst reading the report of the meeting of the Congregational Union—especially that part which related to the class to which I belong—and was not at all surprised to find that that meeting had discovered that the working class formed but a small part of their congregations, and smaller still of their societies. As to the causes that have produced these effects, I believe them to be various, and shall attempt to point out a few of them. We are a class whose peculiarities but very few of the ministers have thought it worth their trouble to study from the sphere in which they move (and we cannot help noticing their leanings towards what are termed the upper classes, although many of them belong to and have arisen from our ranks); and to the lack of sympathy exhibited by their conduct towards the hardy sons of toil may be attributed one of the reasons why they have congregations of tradesmen, and not of artificers. I would ask, what have they done to prevent the widening of the breach, or, as Mr. James has it, religion falling into the background? What have they done to second the efforts of my class to elevate themselves by means of their Mechanics' Institutes? Have they done all they could to facilitate their intellectual improvement by the circulation of cheap literature? What have they done, as the teachers of the people should have done, by lectures to divert the course of their thinking into a proper channel? What have they done to prevent the wide-spread evil of intemperance, which has now struck its deadly roots into the very vitals of society? Have they done anything to assist in gaining their political rights? We say that, with very few exceptions, we behold them as mere spectators: witness the history of all those movements. We want more of the stamp of Mr. Parsons, of Ebly, who have no idea of religion or politics being out of place anywhere. I often think of Paul, who became all things to all men if that he thought that he could win some, and who worked with his own hands to supply his physical necessities; he gloried in not being chargeable to any of them. How different in our day! We cannot have a bishop without his thousands per year, and seldom a sermon without an appeal to our pockets. We would ask, in conclusion, how is it that the working classes in Ireland are proverbial for their attachment to the institutions and teachers of the Church of Rome in that distracted country? The reason is obvious—in Ireland, the priest is found sympathizing with all their peculiarities; whilst administering to their spiritual wants, he is not forgetful of the wrongs which afflict society in general, and which are more keenly felt by that class whose only disgrace is often the want of the common necessaries of life.

Milford, Nov. 17th, 1848. J. P.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

RESPECTED SIR,—I am glad to hear that you have devoted a portion of your excellent paper to the inquiry, why so few persons attend places of religious worship. Having somewhat carefully examined the causes which lead to this neglect, I venture to send you an opinion: and, first, the preaching of the present day is not sufficiently attractive. It is not, in general, the result of deep, earnest, and prayerful study, but rather an attempt at vain show. Our ministers not associating sufficiently with the people, cannot sympathize with them; not knowing the difficulties with which they have to contend, cannot soothe them; and, being ignorant of their inward misgivings, they are unable to administer the needed consolation. Secondly, the writer believes that if ministers had taken a more active part in the Temperance cause—had they, at its commencement, recognised in it an object worthy their attention—had they lead the people, instead of the people leading them, they would have enjoyed more of popular sympathy and support; while myself, a degraded drunkard, and just beginning to see into the error of my way, fondly imagined that ministers, above every other class in society, would aid and help forward this excellent cause; but how differently was my expectation realized when I found that they were among the most decided opponents with which it had to contend, and that they stood most in the way of its advancement.

The generality of drunkards think of attending chapels after their reformation, and is it probable that that attendance will be continued when they find that the minister encourages those practices which have heretofore been the hindrance to their temporal and spiritual prosperity? The people are not insensible to the causes which produce and sustain happiness, and so long as they retain that insensibility they will not support parties who are directly working against the influence of those causes. It is a lamentable fact, that intemperance is filling our prisons; ought it not to be a point of serious consideration with the ministry whether their countenancing the total abstinence cause would people our chapels? There is a possibility (if not a certainty) of being wrong while supporting the drinking customs, but there cannot be the slightest probability of acting wrongfully while supporting the Temperance cause. Further, if ministers had done their duty, the bringing about of a sober world would have been well nigh consummated, when the people would have been more prepared to support the various religious institutions of the age.

In conclusion, ministers, as well as others, have their trials; how consoling and animating would it have been could they have pointed to a host of reformed drunkards, and applied to them the appellation of "children," who were ready to "bear up their arms" under every discouragement, and, instead of frequenting haunts of wretchedness and misery, were drawing others to the house of God, and giving practical illustrations of the "beauties of holiness" in a consistent life. With these brief observations,

I am, dear Sir, yours respectfully,

Hexham. TEASDALE PARKER, Mason.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As a working man I thank you on behalf of that large class with which I am connected, for the opportunity you have given us of publicly expressing our sentiments on a subject of so much importance as that of our feelings in reference to religion, religious teaching, and the religious movements of the day. I shall give you my opinion freely, and in so doing, I feel confident (from having frequently discussed the matter with working men) that I shall not be far from conveying the opinions of the great body referred to. In my remarks on these matters, I shall omit to notice the influence of the State religion on the minds of the working class, any further than just to observe in passing, that it is utterly absurd to suppose that men unprejudiced and uninterested will embrace a system so opposed to the views and practices of Christ, and believe it to be Christianity. The order of Christ's arrangement is entirely reversed; the so-called chief ones, instead of ministering to their brethren, luxuriate in palaces, and are designated Lords. The State clergy, who since the Reformation have had from the nation millions annually to educate the people, and who might, and who should have attended to the religious, and moral, and physical culture of the masses, now taunt them with their ignorance, and denounce them as unfit for the rights of citizens. These are facts which rise like a dark mountain, and conceal from the eyes of working men the bright truths that lie beyond. Were it not so, tens of thousands of intelligent minds now enveloped in the dark mists of infidelity would rejoice in the freedom, political, moral, and religious, which the Bible makes known. Passing by these parties, then, I shall just glance at the position the Nonconformists of our country occupy in reference to the working classes. I understand a section of them have lately been expressing some anxiety in reference to our bearing in matters they think of importance. These good people are in error, Sir, if they suppose that the great mass of the working classes of this country have *no religious feeling*; true they have little sympathy with that vapourish thing which struggles to pass for Christianity in the present day, but they have a deep, an abiding conviction that there are truths in the back ground, principles which the Bible teaches, which, if permitted to circulate among and influence the people, would remove from them most of the ignorance, the vice, and the woe which prevails. The languid, workless mechanic, as he strolls through our streets, undetermined which way to bend his course, has a floating idea in his mind, (vague though it might be,) that did the benevolent anti-selfish spirit of Christianity prevail in equal ratio with formalism and profession, the keen edge would be taken from the miseries of home, and his life be less a burthen. The principal source from which working men get their ideas of Christianity, is the spirit and conduct of its professors; they seldom study its real principles as they are found in the Bible. Now, suppose such a man as I have been trying to picture, in the depth of his anxiety to again supply his wants by his industry, resolves to call on one of the officials of a neighbouring chapel (one on whom the world smiles, who drives a thriving trade in the line of business our poor artizan is skilled in), he only wants employment; "to beg he'd be ashamed;" of course he thinks to meet with sympathy (the despised atheist can sympathize and give a kindly look). But how is the honest, manly, application met? With a stern look—a cold, repulsive reply; the care-worn man withdraws, the harsh tones grating upon his ear, the stern repulsion agitating his spirit; and this, thinks he, a man of prayer! who sometimes leads the devotions of the sanctuary, and none more eloquently asks that men may be converted. He forms his own estimate of the principles such an one professes; the city missionary sees him at his home to-morrow; he presses him with truth; he is honest and he is earnest; but the man, disgusted, turns away; he feels himself insulted, and fancies he is as good a man without such notions.

This, Sir, is a small sample of an almost unlimited stock. The feelings of the working class are now (more than they ever were at war with all that is insincere. The Christian church makes no advance a mong them, no

and Dissenter. The utmost courtesy towards the lecturer was manifested by both these parties, and the interest of the meeting much enhanced by the remarks thus elicited. All parties present evinced a warm interest in the matter, and some declared their readiness to remain until the morning if necessary. It was an excellent meeting for Thrapstone. The room was crowded, and those who came late found it difficult to effect an entrance.

Mr. Kingsley has also been lecturing at Oundle and Wellingborough; and this week he is to visit Boston, Peterborough, Wisbech, and Horncastle. The three last-named towns are places in which the Association has never before made any movement. Indeed, the same thing may be said of Lincolnshire generally; but it is intended that lectures shall shortly be delivered all over the county.

Lynn.—A public meeting was held at the Temperance-hall, on Friday, at which a deputation was present, representing the Anti-state-church Association in London. The chair was taken by Mr. John Keed, who, after a few remarks, introduced J. H. Tillett, Esq., of Norwich, who delivered a lecture upon the evils resulting from the union of the Church with the State. Mr. Tillett descanted with much energy on the subject, and drew several very happy pictures of the process observed in "bishop" making, and the apportioning of the clergy; and, in a very lucid and masterly manner, condemned a system alike opposed to Scripture and to good sense. —*Norfolk News.* [Meetings of the Anti-state-church Association have also lately been held in several other places in Norfolk.]

THE EPISCOPAL FUND AND EPISCOPAL SPOLIATION.

(From the *Daily News.*)

When Dr. Bagot was Bishop of Oxford, with scarcely £2,000 a year, he was obliged to put up with divers defects in the episcopal palace at Cuddesden. But no sooner was Dr. Wilberforce raised to that see, with £4,500 a year, than the palace was discovered to be uninhabitable. With the smaller income, Dr. Bagot was compelled to live in it unrepaired; but, with double the income of his predecessor, Dr. Wilberforce was allowed to throw the cost of its repairs and decorations on the Episcopal Fund. For these purposes the Ecclesiastical Commission consented at first to grant the Bishop of Oxford the sum of £3,500; but on the express condition, incorporated in an Order in Council, that all expenses "over and above the said sum of £3,500 shall be defrayed by the said Samuel, Bishop of Oxford, his executors or administrators." That sum was, however, quickly spent; and, being exhausted, the Bishop attended the Board, and produced a plan for beautifying the episcopal gardens at Cuddesden, for which, of course, he had no funds. The Commission willingly yielded to the voice of the charmer, and the Episcopal Fund was forthwith charged with £1,300 more, that Samuel, by divine providence, Lord Bishop of Oxford, might indulge his elegant tastes in the fashionable science of horticulture, and carry off prizes at flower-shows. Nor did the expenditure on Cuddesden stop here; for a few months after, the Ecclesiastical Commission, *at a board meeting when there were fifteen episcopal and only two lay commissioners present*, authorized the Bishop of Oxford to charge his see with £1,700 more, to pay the balance of unauthorized expenditure due in respect of the adornment of Cuddesden Palace.

Encouraged by the success of his successor in the see of Oxford, Dr. Bagot quickly found out that the episcopal palace at Wells was in a sad plight; it wanted bedrooms, it wanted stables—in short, there was no end of its wants. But Dr. Bagot's application for the means to supply all these wants came too late. Dr. Wilberforce had been beforehand with him. The younger and wilier prelate had exhausted the episcopal funds for the present. But where there is a will there is a way. And so, unable to give him the money, the Ecclesiastical Commission authorized Dr. Bagot to borrow £4,000, and lay it out on the palace at Wells, and kindly charged the Episcopal Fund with the payment of the annual interest on the amount so raised. And of the £4,000 for which the episcopal fund is thus pledged, Dr. Bagot, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, spent a part in building a conservatory, and thereby blocked up from view a window of the episcopal chapel which was the admiration of all who saw it.

Is the Episcopal Fund, or any other fund, safe in such hands?

Yet these are, as we shall show, trifling cases of its wanton waste.

Dr. Phillpott's Scheme for more Bishops.—In spite of the lavish expenditure which has been, or can hereafter be made, on bishops' palaces, on episcopal gardens, and on prelatical coach-houses and stables, there will still (when the act of 1836 comes into full operation) be a balance of no less than £16,000 a year in favour of this Episcopal Fund. It appears that by episcopal manœuvring the Episcopal Fund has been separated from the Fund for the Extension of the Parochial System. The Bishop of London, according to the *Daily News*, proposes to appropriate the supplies of £16,000 to an extension of the Church. He looks forward to its still unappropriated balance of £16,000 a year as a source whence not only to endow the three new bishopries of Southwell, St. Alban's, and Bodmin, which he has seduced Lord John Russell into the folly of contemplating, but he confidently talks of applying some part of this annual sum to the extension of the episcopal order in our colonies. A very pretty plot to waste the means of the Church. One, too, that might have been successful had ministers only procured in the Bishopric of Manchester Act, the legislative sanction they sought to Dr. Blomfield's extravagant scheme of Bishop (as counter distinguished from Church) Extension.

The Bishop of London, it is stated, has just had a case of some importance referred to him. It is alleged that a clergyman who officiates at a fashionable church in London, long remarkable for its forms and ceremonies, advised one of his congregation who was about to travel to communicate with the Church of Rome whilst absent from England. This advice has been submitted to the bishop as highly reprehensible, and the decision of the diocesan is looked for with great interest by the rev. gentleman's congregation.

Church Reform.—In March last a deputation—consisting of Lord Harrowby, Lord Ashley, Lord Robert Grosvenor, and Mr. Colquhoun—had an interview with the Premier, and it transpired that the subject of their conference was connected with the Church. A little later in the session, Mr. Horsman, in withdrawing his motion, gave Lord John Russell a distinct intimation, that he should inquire, on the very first day of the next session, what progress the Government had made in maturing its plans of Church reform. Bearing these circumstances in mind, it is no matter of surprise when we remark, that Mr. C. K. Murray, the Secretary of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, has recently paid several visits to Lord John. We can hardly doubt that the very opening week of the coming session will produce some movement in this direction on the part of the Government. As to the plans submitted to the Premier in March last, about these there is no longer any mystery. Mr. Colquhoun has made the whole public, in a brief pamphlet, which contains, first, nine propositions laid before Lord John in the March conference; and, secondly, four letters addressed to Lord John by himself (Mr. Colquhoun) in explanation of the whole project. The nine recommendations of the deputation were as follows:—1. That the Ecclesiastical Commission should be remodelled. 2. That the value of the estates of the bishops and cathedral chapters should be ascertained, and the amount rendered available for spiritual purposes. 3. That the archbishops and bishops should be endowed with certain fixed incomes; and that the surplus of their estates should fall into the ecclesiastical fund. 4. That this fund should be applied to make spiritual provision for the people, by the endowment of new districts. 5. That periodical returns should be made of the spiritual necessities of each diocese. 6. That new sees should be formed in such numbers as to secure the vigilant oversight of dioceses—the new bishops not having seats in Parliament, and being endowed with incomes of £2,000 per annum, and with residences. 7. The existing deaneries to be raised into bishoprics, thus providing easily for a considerable number of new bishops, without any demand for new funds. 8. Voluntary contributions towards the new bishoprics to be solicited. 9. The remaining canonries and minor canonries to be annexed to ill-endowed benefices in populous places. Such is an outline of the plan or scheme of "Church Extension and Reform" submitted to Lord John Russell in March last; and we doubt not that, in the course of a few weeks, we shall find some plan, not very dissimilar, laid before the House of Commons by the Government.—*Record.*

Rochdale Church-Rate.—A few weeks ago, the ratepayers of the parish of Rochdale were called together for the purpose of making a church-rate, when a motion was submitted and carried for one farthing in the pound. As soon as this was done, Mr. Livsey stood up and said that the proceedings were illegal, as no estimate of the expenses had been laid before the meeting. On account of this, the wardens have not attempted to collect it, as it would be in vain to collect a church-rate in Rochdale. The wardens are willing to raise money by a voluntary subscription, but the vicar refuses to let them have the use of the church for that purpose. The wardens have been served with an order of the following kind from the Rural Dean, F. R. Raines, M.A.:—"By virtue of a commission issued to me by the Lord Bishop of Manchester, I have this day (Nov. 27) visited your parish church, and I find that the following things are required in and about the church, and I respectfully beg that you will provide and attend to the same. Should you not do so, I have to request that you will inform me, under your hand and that of your vicar, what reasons have induced you so to act, on the 27th February, 1849." The repairs which are considered necessary are here set down, and the letter concludes with the following sentence:—"The church is in a very filthy state, and requires a thorough cleansing."—*Leeds Mercury.*

Puseyite Homily on Mr. Noel's Secession.—That this secession, or deposition from the ministry, will do good, cannot be doubted. It will show the "Evangelical" clergy that one of the most able and amiable of their class finds his position practically, as well as theoretically, untenable—that Dissenting principles, if honestly held, and honestly carried out, are utterly inconsistent with an honest performance of those duties which the Church imposes upon her ministers. Deeply have the "Evangelical" clergy seared their consciences, misled their flocks, and impaired the unity and efficiency of the Church, by so long "halting between two opinions:" better that they should follow Mr. Noel's example, than that they should hold his principles, and retain their position in the Church.—*English Churchman.*

The great clock for the Victoria Tower of the new Houses of Parliament is to strike the hours on a bell of from eight to ten tons weight, chime the quarters on eight bells, and show time on four dials of thirty feet in diameter.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Shrewsbury.—On Thursday, the 14th, services were held in connexion with the public recognition of Mr. W. P. Williams, late of Bristol College, as pastor of the Baptist Church meeting in Claremont-street Chapel, Shrewsbury. At ten in the morning, the Rev. J. P. Mursell, of Leicester, delivered a most brilliant and powerful address, distinguished by his lofty grasp of thought and beauty and force of expression, on the duties of Dissenters at the present crisis. After which, the Rev. Dr. Cox, of Hackney, addressed the minister from 2 Cor. iv. 2. "By manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." The doctor's discourse was an admirable one, and marked throughout by his peculiarly affectionate and telling manner. In the evening, at half-past six, Mr. Mursell again preached to a large and deeply riveted audience, and in conclusion most appropriately addressed the assembled church on some of the peculiar obligations resting upon them in their relation to their respected, devoted, and talented young minister, whose active labours amongst them, for upwards of twelve months, have been encouragingly blessed in a large addition of young persons to their number. At the close, the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was administered. It was a day long and deservedly to be remembered. The other ministers who took part in these interesting services, were, the Revs. Messrs. Pugh (Primitive Methodist); Hilton (New Connexion); Mather and Powis (Wesleyans); Hill (Independent); Wrigley, Keay, Grainger, and Sargent (Baptists).

Reduction in the Navy.—The *United Service Gazette* states that Government intend to propose a reduction of 3,000 seamen in the coming session.

Latter-Day Saints in Perth.—On Sabbath night, a number of the disciples of Joe Smith were observed wending their way through the town, as if bent on some special purpose; the little company, by the adhesion of the wonder-seekers, as they went along, was soon augmented into a crowd that continued to enlarge till it reached the side of the river on the North Inch, where it halted; when two men and a woman, after being surrounded by thei respective friends, began to strip in the moon-light, and were forthwith led into the Tay in succession, and severally baptized in the new faith by immersion. The scene was a strange one, but more revolting than solemn, and ill calculated, in our opinion, to operate wooingly on the imagination and feelings of aspirants. The moon shone coldly down on the glassy river, which, o'ergorged by the melted snows of Breadalbane and Rannock, rushed unheedingly and heartlessly past.—*Perth Advertiser.*

Extraordinary Accouchement.—A correspondent states that last Friday night, between 11 and 12 o'clock, as a man and his wife, vendors of salt, were on their way home, through Hanbury Forest-lane, the poor woman was taken in labour. There was no shelter near, the night was very inclement, rain falling in torrents, and in these circumstances there was no other course left to the man than to lay his suffering wife by the road side, and to proceed two miles to Feckenham for surgical aid. Accordingly he hastened there, and returned accompanied by Mr. Harrison, surgeon, of that place, by whose assistance the poor woman was safely delivered about one o'clock. To add to the indescribable misery of the occurrence, the wretched mother had not a rag of clothing for her babe—thus born in the damp grass, with a tempestuous wintry sky for its only covering. It was between 9 and 10 o'clock next morning before any nourishment was procured for the poor woman; and, strange to say, no effort to remove her seems to have been made. A farmer in the neighbourhood sent some straw for her to lie upon, and there she remained till a brook rising, four days afterwards, threatened to wash this miserable bed from under her! Our informant states that this was the poor creature's first child, and that she had once seen better days. After paying for medical assistance, the unfortunate couple were left with sixpence, their sole pecuniary resource.—*Worcester Herald.*

Great Meeting in the Manchester Free-trade Hall.—Arrangements are commenced for holding a monster meeting of free traders, financial reformers, and others, in the Free Trade-hall, in Manchester, on Thursday, the 4th of January next. Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Brotherton, Colonel Thompson, and several other veteran Reformers, are expected to be present, and take part in the proceedings. Measures will be adopted in furtherance of financial reform, an extension of the franchise, and a more enlarged and comprehensive system of registration of voters. It is understood that Mr. Cobden intends to submit a sort of budget to the meeting, showing that savings to a very large amount can be effected in the army, the ordnance, and the navy, without endangering the defences of the country. A very crowded meeting is expected.

The *Daily News* says, "We have it on the best authority that ministers, yielding to the force of the representations made to them by the commercial interests of the north, have consented that a secret committee of the House of Commons shall be appointed next session, to inquire into the expediency of limiting the responsibility of the proprietors of joint-stock banks." [The inquiry should extend also to the conduct of directors, and to advances made to or taken by them.]

The gauge of the Arbroath and Forfar portion of the Aberdeen Railway has been altered from 5 feet 6 inches to what is termed the national or narrow gauge of 4 feet 8½ inches; so that there is now a uniform gauge from London to Perth, Dundee and Aberdeen.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DISSENTING MINISTERS AND CHILDREN'S CHAPELS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—"An Old Sabbath-school Teacher," who has addressed to you a letter on the interesting subject of Children's Chapels, earnestly recommends an energetic and intelligent attempt to heartily grapple with the difficulties by which it is, confessedly, surrounded. Concurring in the suggestion, I take the liberty of pointing the attention of our Sunday-school reformers to a "difficulty," which possibly may not have entered into their calculations, but which requires to be grappled with *very* heartily both by them and by others, wherever it may make its appearance.

If your readers will turn to the *Evangelical Magazine* for this month, they will find an article on this very subject, entitled (in the table of contents), "Ominous Proposal in reference to Sunday-schools." On the article generally, and its arguments against separate services for children, I make no comment, but let the following "ominous" and significant passages, with which the editor closes his remarks, be very carefully read. After alluding to the scarcity of competent "children's preachers," he says, "We may, here and there, find an individual who can conduct, with discretion and effect, the proposed religious service; but will intelligent children *mistake all this for the stated ministry of the Word?* Or ought they to be taught *to confound the agent in question, however highly qualified, with the regularly constituted pastor of the Christian church?* We think not. Let Sunday-school teachers put forth their full energies in perfecting the Sabbath-school system. They have an ample field here, without *stepping out of their legitimate province.* Let them not seek to deprive the pastor of the place he has hitherto occupied. Let not the great link between him and the Sunday-school be severed. . . . We plead *the infringed rights of the pastor and church.* . . . We protest with earnestness against *the establishment or the recognition of any secondary pastorate in our churches.* . . .

We claim for every Christian pastor that he stand at the head of his own school, and *that no man presume to take his place.*"

Now it may be that the strength of the editor's attachment to the young, and his zeal for their welfare, have led him to adopt language somewhat equivocal and unguarded, or it is quite likely that I may have put an erroneous construction upon it; but, in my own mind, the passage has certainly produced some very uncomfortable and dissatisfied feelings—has, in fact, rather shocked me by its priestly air and by its suspicious resemblance to some of those Puseyistical notions which awhile ago the author of the "Homilies for the Times" did something to demolish. But let your readers do the editor justice, by reading the article for themselves, and then they can judge whether I am, after all, but a silly alarmist, or only a faithful Watchman.

The Training of Sabbath-School Teachers.—On Monday evening, the 18th inst., a lecture was delivered in the school-rooms of Maberly Chapel, "On the Importance of Training Sunday-school Teachers," by Mr. Dunning, the head master of the Training School, in Gray's-inn-road. The lecturer commenced by congratulating Sunday-school teachers on what they have already accomplished, and on the deeply interesting position they now occupy in agitating the question, which was on the occasion to occupy his own attention, and that of his audience. The nature of training was next explained, and the drift of the lecturer's remarks appeared to be, that this school at Gray's-inn-road consists in making candidate teachers well acquainted with the principles of the human mind; familiar with rules and plans of teaching, drawn from these principles; and expert in applying them in the practice of the school-room. The lecturer next laid down some important fundamental principles, on which he based the importance of the training of Sunday-school teachers. The main proposition of the lecture was based on the following arguments:—1st. That there is an art in teaching. 2nd. That the art is of a peculiar nature. 3rd. That the immature intellect of a child does not receive ideas as does the mature intellect of an adult. 4th. That it is the business of the Sunday-school teacher not only to instruct his children, but to exercise and discipline their minds. 5th. The nature and range of the subjects contained in the Scriptures. 6th. The peculiar nature and beauty of the language of the Bible. 7th. The advantage that would arise from the general training of Sunday-school teachers. These were all supported by clear and convincing exposition and illustration, and the lecture was listened to throughout with the most fixed attention.

Home-made Wills.—The following cases were heard in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury a few days since:—Mary Howell, deceased—Probate refused, on the ground that the will was written on one side of a sheet of paper only, while the signatures were inscribed on the other. Jonathan Birch, deceased—Probate refused, in consequence of blanks left for legacies having been filled up in red ink. Jane Corner, deceased—Probate refused, on the ground stated in the case of Mary Howell. William Sanger, deceased—Probate refused, on the ground of the character of certain alterations made in the will. Esther Powell, deceased—Application for probate opposed, because the same will was signed by the testatrix by two names, those of "Powell" and "Watkins." Probate granted, on the testimony of a clergyman, who knew the signatures to be those of one and the same person. Elizabeth Rose, deceased—The will of the testatrix was only discovered twelve years after her decease, and some years after the death of the party who had administered to the property. Probate granted.

A new telegraph company has been established, called the Scottish Electric Telegraph Company, for supplying the chief towns and cities of the North.

THE WORKING CLASSES AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—I was very much pleased whilst reading the report of the meeting of the Congregational Union—especially that part which related to the class to which I belong—and was not at all surprised to find that that meeting had discovered that the working class formed but a small part of their congregations, and smaller still of their societies. As to the causes that have produced these effects, I believe them to be various, and shall attempt to point out a few of them. We are a class whose peculiarities but very few of the ministers have thought it worth their trouble to study from the sphere in which they move (and we cannot help noticing their leanings towards what are termed the upper classes, although many of them belong to and have arisen from our ranks); and to the lack of sympathy exhibited by their conduct towards the hardy sons of toil may be attributed one of the reasons why they have congregations of tradesmen, and not of artificers. I would ask, what have they done to prevent the widening of the breach, or, as Mr. James has it, religion falling into the background? What have they done to second the efforts of my class to elevate themselves by means of their Mechanics' Institutes? Have they done all they could to facilitate their intellectual improvement by the circulation of cheap literature? What have they done, as the teachers of the people should have done, by lectures to divert the course of their thinking into a proper channel? What have they done to prevent the wide-spread evil of intemperance, which has now struck its deadly roots into the very vitals of society? Have they done anything to assist in gaining their political rights? We say that, with very few exceptions, we behold them as mere spectators: witness the history of all those movements. We want more of the stamp of Mr. Parsons, of Ebly, who have no idea of religion or politics being out of place anywhere. I often think of Paul, who became all things to all men if that he thought that he could win some, and who worked with his own hands to supply his physical necessities; he gloried in not being chargeable to any of them. How different in our day! We cannot have a bishop without his thousands per year, and seldom a sermon without an appeal to our pockets. We would ask, in conclusion, how is it that the working classes in Ireland are proverbial for their attachment to the institutions and teachers of the Church of Rome in that distracted country? The reason is obvious—in Ireland, the priest is found sympathizing with all their peculiarities; whilst administering to their spiritual wants, he is not forgetful of the wrongs which afflict society in general, and which are more keenly felt by that class whose only disgrace is often the want of the common necessaries of life.

Milford, Nov. 17th, 1848. J. P.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Respected Sir,—I am glad to hear that you have devoted a portion of your excellent paper to the inquiry, why so few persons attend places of religious worship. Having somewhat carefully examined the causes which lead to this neglect, I venture to send you an opinion: and, first, the preaching of the present day is not sufficiently attractive. It is not, in general, the result of deep, earnest, and prayerful study, but rather an attempt at vain show. Our ministers not associating sufficiently with the people, cannot sympathize with them; not knowing the difficulties with which they have to contend, cannot soothe them; and, being ignorant of their inward misgivings, they are unable to administer the needed consolation. Secondly, the writer believes that if ministers had taken a more active part in the Temperance cause—had they, at its commencement, recognised in it an object worthy their attention—had they lead the people, instead of the people leading them, they would have enjoyed more of popular sympathy and support; while myself, a degraded drunkard, and just beginning to see into the error of my way, fondly imagined that ministers, above every other class in society, would aid and help forward this excellent cause; but how differently was my expectation realized when I found that they were among the most decided opponents with which it had to contend, and that they stood most in the way of its advancement.

The generality of drunkards think of attending chapels after their reformation, and is it probable that that attendance will be continued when they find that the minister encourages those practices which have heretofore been the hindrance to their temporal and spiritual prosperity? The people are not insensible to the causes which produce and sustain happiness, and so long as they retain that insensibility they will not support parties who are directly working against the influence of those causes. It is a lamentable fact, that intemperance is filling our prisons; ought it not to be a point of serious consideration with the ministry whether their countenancing the total abstinence cause would people our chapels? There is a possibility (if not a certainty) of being wrong while supporting the drinking customs, but there cannot be the slightest probability of acting wrongfully while supporting the Temperance cause. Further, if ministers had done their duty, the bringing about of a sober world would have been well nigh consummated, when the people would have been more prepared to support the various religious institutions of the age.

In conclusion, ministers, as well as others, have their trials; how consoling and animating would it have been could they have pointed to a host of reformed drunkards, and applied to them the appellation of "children," who were ready to "bear up their arms" under every discouragement, and, instead of frequenting haunts of wretchedness and misery, were drawing others to the house of God, and giving practical illustrations of the "beauties of holiness" in a consistent life. With these brief observations,

I am, dear Sir, yours respectfully,

Hexham. Teasdale Parker, Mason.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—As a working man I thank you on behalf of that large class with which I am connected, for the opportunity you have given us of publicly expressing our sentiments on a subject of so much importance as that of our feelings in reference to religion, religious teaching, and the religious movements of the day. I shall give you my opinion freely, and in so doing, I feel confident (from having frequently discussed the matter with working men) that I shall not be far from conveying the opinions of the great body referred to. In my remarks on these matters, I shall omit to notice the influence of the State religion on the minds of the working class, any further than just to observe in passing, that it is utterly absurd to suppose that men unprejudiced and uninterested will embrace a system so opposed to the views and practices of Christ, and believe it to be Christianity. The order of Christ's arrangement is entirely reversed; the so-called chief ones, instead of ministering to their brethren, luxuriate in palaces, and are designated Lords. The State clergy, who since the Reformation have had from the nation millions annually to educate the people, and who might, and who should have attended to the religious, and moral, and physical culture of the masses, now taunt them with their ignorance, and denounce them as unfit for the rights of citizens. These are facts which rise like a dark mountain, and conceal from the eyes of working men the bright truths that lie beyond. Were it not so, tens of thousands of intelligent minds now enveloped in the dark mists of infidelity would rejoice in the freedom, political, moral, and religious, which the Bible makes known. Passing by these parties, then, I shall just glance at the position the Nonconformists of our country occupy in reference to the working classes. I understand a section of them have lately been expressing some anxiety in reference to our bearing in matters they think of importance. These good people are in error, Sir, if they suppose that the great mass of the working classes of this country have *no religious feeling*; true they have little sympathy with that vapourish thing which struggles to pass for Christianity in the present day, but they have a deep, an abiding conviction that there are truths in the back ground, principles which the Bible teaches, which, if permitted to circulate among and influence the people, would remove from them most of the ignorance, the vice, and the woe which prevails. The languid, workless mechanic, as he strolls through our streets, undetermined which way to bend his course, has a floating idea in his mind, (vague though it might be,) that did the benevolent anti-selfish spirit of Christianity prevail in equal ratio with formalism and profession, the keen edge would be taken from the miseries of home, and his life be less a burthen. The principal source from which working men get their ideas of Christianity, is the spirit and conduct of its professors; they seldom study its real principles as they are found in the Bible. Now, suppose such a man as I have been trying to picture, in the depth of his anxiety to again supply his wants by his industry, resolves to call on one of the officials of a neighbouring chapel (one on whom the world smiles, who drives a thriving trade in the line of business our poor artizan is skilled in), he only wants employment; "to beg he'd be ashamed;" of course he thinks to meet with sympathy (the despised atheist can sympathize and give a kindly look). But how is the honest, manly, application met? With a stern look—a cold, repulsive reply; the care-worn man withdraws, the harsh tones grating upon his ear, the stern repulsion agitating his spirit; and this, thinks he, a man of prayer! who sometimes leads the devotions of the sanctuary, and none more eloquently asks that men may be converted. He forms his own estimate of the principles such an one professes; the city missionary sees him at his home to-morrow; he presses him with truth; he is honest and he is earnest; but the man, disgusted, turns away; he feels himself insulted, and fancies he is as good a man without such notions.

This, Sir, is a small sample of an almost unlimited stock. The feelings of the working class are now (more than they ever were) at war with all that is insincere. The Christian church makes no advance a mong them, no

will it, till the spirit of its Founder animates the breasts of those who take his name upon them. Nor will it! may be echoed from the factory and the field.

I have only just touched upon a subject on which I could much enlarge, but brevity is necessary; therefore I pass on, to say a few words about our Nonconforming teachers, who should be emphatically the teachers of the working class. I believe the greater number of them sprung from that body, and if they are honest men, it were better for the world they had never quitted their connexion; we (the working men) might then have had their sympathies, their teachings, and their energies. It is true they might have been less skilled in classic lore; but then they would have had a greater knowledge of humanity; their minds might not have been so well refined, but then they would have been more masculine and free, and if they loved the gospel truth, they might have spread it far and wide among us; their bodies might have been less smooth and coarser clad, but then they had been better fitted far to bear the heats and colds, the toils and wearyings, a teacher of Christ's gospel should prepare to encounter; and though they had never gone to college, they might have learned a vast amount of bible truth, and made a stand for us against the errors and the wrongs which blind and wound us.

I would not, Sir, indulge a bitter feeling in reference to those men whose minds have carried them above their father's standard; but I do lament that they so far forget themselves (as in the general), so to trim their teachings, as that stern naked truth shall not disturb the feelings of good easy folks, who think all 's well if they but thrive themselves.

There are some teachers of the gospel, I believe, who feel themselves the victims of a system, but want the moral courage to shake off their shackles; they grieve in spirit over the moral evils that are nourished in our country, but fear to raise their voices to condemn. Fear what? Their brethrens' frown; the scowls of over-cautious trimming deacons—men dependent, for the most part, on a higher class for patronage in trade; they cannot, dare not, be allied to men who have the Christian courage to proclaim that *gospel truth*, the equal rights, the brotherhood of man. These things working men can very clearly see; and while this state of matters lasts, it is folly to expect their sympathy. Men who make no profession of attachment to any section of the Christian church are taking up the work it ought to have commenced and carried forward years ago. There is the cause of temperance; how few, how very few, of those who teach religion to the people will strive to push it onwards; it cannot be done without some self-denial, and although some 30,000 annually are expelled or withdrawn from the churches through the influence of intoxicating drinks, that is not enough to move their sympathies. Then the men of peace are left almost alone to preach that peace the gospel teaches, although they are mostly those called laymen; and when a deputation comes to show us some of the evils and the wrongs resulting from the union of the Church and State, where are our champions then? We may, perchance, find one who, bolder than the rest, attends a meeting, sits well back upon the platform, and leaves before the close—and these are *earnest* men—and if some honest man, connected with their body, refuses to pay towards expense incurred by others in their worship, they see him suffer loss; they murmur where they cannot be heard, but seldom raise their voices to denounce a wrong so cruel. Is it any wonder, then, that disinterested men still stand aloof? It is not because they do not love the truth—they love it ardently, or why that almost frantic applause when sometimes at a numerously-attended meeting it breaks away from all alloy, and falls upon our ears in all its purity? And we can honour and revere a man of truth, call him by what name you may, and we can recognise some such among the men who preach the gospel. There is one some twenty miles from where I am writing, who, though he could not run a race, has far outstripped his compeers in the work of winning minds to truth, and many of them view him in the distance onwards, and scowling call him Chartist. A truthful man expects to be calumniated. When all our nonconforming Christian teachers are so truthful in the main, then working men will rally round them.

I could refer to many other matters by which we are repelled, but feel I am intruding on your space. As things are now, the materials of our dress, however clean, cannot be endured in any quantity in many of the places where genteeler folks are taught, and well-trained sextons seem to know the quality and cost of cloth, and look and act accordingly. Then we have no representatives in the directorate. There are some few working men connected with the churches who, for character and intelligence, are not behind some of the more favoured of their brethren; but if I am not misinformed, they are ineligible; not plainly told so, but [illegible] the finer clad *cannot act with them*, and if they or those who favour them demur or murmur loud, they are branded as disturbers of the peace of [illegible]portant personages.

I would fain write on, bu[illegible]lose with just a brief remark in reference to our want of [illegible]athy with religious movements. Sir, an honest-minded working man has only to go to one of our large missionary meetings to convince himself of the artificial nature of the zeal displayed on such occasions on the platform. We hear men in their speeches eulogize with studied eloquence the self-denying labours of their brethren on foreign shores who will not take an hour's walk to preach a sermon at a village station, where many a life is going out in darkness. I cannot trust myself to go further into this matter, but will conclude by stating plainly that so far as I know my own mind and the minds of working men around me (and I have associated with large numbers for five and twenty years, and studied their religious feelings), the present class of agencies and means employed by the religious world will never win them to the truth, nor yet deserve their sympathies.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

Bristol, November 30, 1848. Watcher.

THE WORKING CLASSES.—A SUGGESTION TO MINISTERS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—I am watching with deep interest the discussion which you have originated among working men on the subject of religious institutions. It is not my present intention to take part in it; though, from the admission of my friend Mr. Millard's letter two or three weeks ago, I perceive that you are disposed to allow the claim of *young ministers* to be considered "working men." Here, in sober earnest, you are quite right!

Most thoroughly do I believe that the rising ministry, at least, are generally alive to the claims of the humbler classes upon the earnest regard of the Christian church. Many of us, too, are most anxious to conduct efforts for their special benefit, intellectual and religious. Nothing would delight us more than to superintend classes, to deliver lectures, to meet and talk and reason with them, and prove, in short, to all who were open to conviction, that we "cared for their souls" in far more than a technical or in any way sectarian sense. But there is one difficulty in the way which, however small it may appear in the statement of it, is, I assure you, of great practical weight. Where is the *time* to be found, and the *strength*? I suppose almost every minister of a dissenting congregation, in a town, has to conduct two religious services in the week at his own place, and very likely another somewhere else, in connexion with the church under his care. Then the alarming multiplication of religious societies—each with its monthly committee, its financial difficulties, and its enthusiastic public meetings—is a call upon his energies that he knows not how to resist. He must, too, be all active and alert in pastoral *and other* visitation, if he is to retain his influence at all. Added to which, the increasing rivalry of sects throws, perforce, an intensity into all this toil which destroys, by inevitable reaction, the power to engage in other and more largely useful work, however hearty his desires may be.

Very bad all this; and, after all, very thankless. But I think I see a remedy. It is nothing more than the application of the well-worn maxim, "Union is strength." Not Evangelical-Alliance union—that just issues in another committee, and more public meetings—but a real, practical consolidation. We each preach a week-day sermon—too early (as "Cymro" remarks), for the working people to come and hear it. The consequence is, that—where, for instance, there are four Dissenting chapels in a town or district—we have four small congregations, and four ministers, all at work. Now, why should not these congregations all meet in the same place, and listen to the same man? Either of the places of worship would be quite sufficient to hold them; the service could alternately be held at the different chapels; and the ministers could preach also in turn, each occupying, not his own pulpit, but another's. The plan would work well. Our congregations would like it. Some of our sectarianism might perchance be melted down. But, which is more to the present purpose, ample leisure would at once be left for the classes and lectures above referred to, without making any further demands upon the strength of the ministers. Another evening might be taken for this purpose; the working classes called together at eight o'clock, as the congregations had been at seven; the ministers would engage in this also alternately; a somewhat wider range of subjects would be taken; each exercise would be found very profitable to those more immediately concerned; and twice the work would be done with half the toil. It should be provided, moreover, that all public religious meetings should, if possible, be held on the evening of the weekly sermon.

Let the plan be tried with the new year in some of our large towns, and let the success of the experiment be reported in your paper. It would at first, if I may come to details, be well to issue cards, with some such heading as this:—

"Weekly Religious Services will be conducted in January and February, 1849, alternately at ——— and ——— chapels, by Messrs. A. B. C. and D., on Thursday evenings, at seven o'clock; and Weekly Lectures, specially addressed to the Working Classes, will be delivered at the same places, by the above-mentioned ministers, on Thursday evenings, at eight o'clock."

Let the subjects of the sermons and of the lectures follow, if practicable, each with the name of place and preacher.

The far-sighted will perhaps discern the probability, that such united efforts might by and by suggest, on the part of those who conducted them, an entire examination of the principles and causes of our denominational divisions; and might lead to eventual union and co-operation—not on "Tuesday and Thursday evenings" only. For my part, I fully believe, and most fervently pray, that this would be the case.

The plans above suggested may appear defective, but I am sure that they embody true principle, and shall be the first to thank any one who will propose "a more excellent way" to ensure the same results.

Samuel G. Green.

Taunton, December 14*th*, 1848.

A few days ago, a pensioner at Carlisle cut out of his arm a flattened piece of lead, about the size of a six-pence, being a portion of a ball which shattered the upper bone of his arm at the battle of Waterloo.—*Durham Advertiser.*

THE NORFOLK ASSASSINATIONS.

The inquiry before the Norwich magistrates into the facts of the Stanfield-hall assassinations terminated on Friday, with a public sitting of the Bench, at which all the depositions taken in private were read over to Mr. Rush. Some new and interesting matter came out. Miss Emily Sandford seems to have been the intelligent but passive instrument used by Rush in the working of divers nefarious schemes. Her evidence had disclosed a secret place in a closet of the Potash farm-house used as a depository of documents. Rush himself one day showed it to her, saying, "I want to let you into a secret." He lifted a board in the floor with a chisel, and said, "This is a place made to keep all my papers; my poor mother was the only one that knew of it, and now she is dead I will let you into the secret."

In that repository the police found a box containing a number of documents neatly engrossed on stamped paper. One of them seemed an agreement signed by the late Mr. Isaac Jermy, to the effect that he would burn his mortgage and release Mr. Rush from all the money he owed, on condition of Mr. Rush's giving up all writings about the title to the Stanfield-hall and Felmingham estates, and maintaining Mr. Jermy in possession. Two other documents were agreements for leases of these estates; one of them from Mr. Isaac Jermy to Rush; and the other from Thomas Jermy and two persons of the Larner family, three of the persons who have litigated the ownership of the Stanfield-hall property. It turns out that the signatures of the late Mr. Jermy's name are forgeries; and Miss Sandford admitted that she engrossed these papers for Rush, and signed her name as a witness to the execution of them, "without thinking much about it, as she was in the habit of obeying him." She habitually engrossed business documents on stamped papers like deeds for him.

During the private examination, Rush had conducted himself with extreme violence towards Miss Sandford and the magistrates; he called the magistrates villains—villains whom he would show up. On the 14th, at the close of Miss Sandford's examination, speaking of her depositions, he said—"If she signs them, I hope her hand will rot off; and if she bear a child by me, I hope it will be born with a brand upon it; for she has done all she could against me."

At the end of Thursday's examination, Mr. Rush produced some notes which he diligently and coolly studied: he then said he had "got a good deal to say." He complained that copies of the depositions had been denied to him and to his family; that documents of his own, important to his defence, had been taken and kept away by Mr. Cann, the magistrate's clerk; who had acted from the 29th of November to the 4th instant as an attorney for his defence. He repeated the charge he had made against the magistrates, that "their conduct had been most villanous in the examination as regards the ends of justice, and particularly as regards their conduct in getting the evidence of Emily Sandford;" and he believed "they knew the two last depositions or examinations, whichever they liked to call them, to be false." He signed his statement in bold writing; and was committed to be tried for the murder of Mr. Isaac Jermy and his son. On retiring, he jocosely observed to the reporters, "All will be out by-and-by; time will show."

Noble Conduct of an Engine-driver.—An engine was travelling with its tender from Normanton to Wakefield; on the locomotive were Callagan the driver, Hawkshaw the stoker, and Whittle a driver on the Midland line. Nearly opposite Kirkthorp Church, a part of the machinery broke, and the engine left the rails; it fell down a high embankment, turning over twice. Callagan and Whittle were pitched into a field, while the fireman was crushed into the embankment by the engine. Callagan was least hurt; he assisted Whittle, who has since died; he also pulled the fireman out of the embankment—his arm and leg were broken, and he lies in danger. Then, as he stated at the inquest, Callagan, hurt as he was, and amid the awful circumstances by which he was surrounded, had the presence of mind to recollect that the mail-train from Leeds to Manchester was just about due. He managed to scramble on to the line, and found that the rails had been sprung, and two of the chairs broken. He started off towards Normanton to stop the train; and, after falling several times from weakness and the darkness of the night, the poor fellow reached the signal-light at the junction of the Lancashire and Yorkshire with the Midland. When he got to this point, he was so exhausted with the fatigue that he could not tell the signalman what he wanted; but he made him understand by motion that the approaching train was to be stopped. The red signal-light was turned on just in time to stop the mail-train, which was coming up at the moment.

A Fearful Accident took place recently at the Grand Théâtre at Marseilles, during the performance of the ballet of Giselle. In the second act, whilst Mademoiselle Bertin, the *première danseuse*, suspended by two wires, was crossing the stage, one of the lights set fire to her dress. She uttered the most piercing cries for help, but she was at so great a height that she could not be reached. In this terrible position she was obliged to let herself fall on to the stage, by which she was very badly bruised, but the fire was soon extinguished. The medical men who attended her pronounced that she had sustained no fracture, but congestion of the brain was probable.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

ELECTION OF LOUIS NAPOLEON AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC.

By intelligence from Paris, dated Sunday evening, we learn that the number of votes for Louis Napoleon already ascertained was 5,002,451, and for General Cavaignac, 1,260,999.

The National Assembly has declared that if the returns then show such a majority that the votes of the distant dependencies cannot alter the result, the election shall be proclaimed forthwith. It is expected that this proclamation will be made on Wednesday next (this day).

The official returns of the election in Paris were proclaimed on Thursday. There were,—for Louis Napoleon, 195,484; for General Cavaignac, 95,558.

The official return of the votes polled in the Department of the Seine for the respective candidates for the office of President of the Republic, on the 10th and 11th inst., was on Thursday declared at the Hôtel de Ville, Paris. The numbers stood thus:—

For Prince Louis Napoleon	198,484
General Cavaignac	95,558
Ledru Rollin	26,648
Raspail	15,871
Lamartine	3,838
General Changarnier	66
Marshal Bugeaud	58
General Bedeau	28
F. Arago	16
Barbès	8
Larochejaquelin	3
Dupont (de l'Eure)	3
Berryer	2

The number of voters inscribed was 433,632; of these 341,829 voted.

"Paris," says the *Evénement*, "has declared a holiday. The inhabitants everywhere exchange expressions of joy and enthusiasm. The people, the *bourgeois*, and the army, congratulate each other on the triumph of their candidate. The partizans of M. Louis Napoleon, already friends by opinion, have become brothers by success. Paris never offered such an appearance of contentment since the day when the First Consul re-opened the churches. The popularity of the name of Napoleon seems to be still enhanced by that universal acclamation. That glorious name has now completed the immortal name of its victories. Hitherto it had only conquered Europe: since yesterday it has conquered France."

No less than 405 Members of the National Assembly had been to inscribe their names at the residence of the new President of the Republic.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* states that the manifesto of Prince Louis Napoleon, published a week or two since, was every word of it his own. When he had written it, he read it to MM. Thiers, Emile de Girardin, Molé, Veron, and one or two other of his friends, each of whom proposed an addition, or subtraction, or an alteration. "Gentlemen," said the Prince, with much emotion, "this is my child, my offspring. I am accused of incapacity. You are so kind as to say my bantling is creditable to me. Do allow me to be able to claim its exclusive parentage." His friends concurred, and thus the world became possessed of one means of judging of the capacity and the principles of the Prince."

THE NEW MINISTRY.

The Ministry is almost entirely and definitively formed.

The following are the names of the new Cabinet, with the description of their characters as given by the correspondent of the *Patriot*, to whose communications we have on more than one occasion referred. The writer states that he has known M. Odillon Barrot these thirty years, has always followed his political lead, though without shutting his eyes to the defects of that statesman:—

Justice.—M. Barrot, the great advocate of liberty of worship.

Interior.—M. de Malleville, Under-Secretary of State under M. de Remusat, in 1840; Vice-President of the National Assembly; candidate of the Poictiers Club; a Moderate Protestant.

Foreign Affairs.—M. Drouyn de L'Huys, formerly head of the commercial division in this department; dismissed by M. Guizot for voting as a deputy against his policy. This Minister will probably hold the portfolio in reserve for a man of higher mark; but he is much more capable than Bastide.

Finance.—M. Hippolyte Passy, formerly a chief minister in the Cabinet which, in 1839, under the Presidency of Marshal Soult, succeeded that of M. Molé, in the coalition. M. Dufaure was then his colleague. He afterwards accepted the peerage, and formed part of the Liberal and Moderate portion of that Chamber; but he was a political friend of M. de Broglie, and through him, of M. Guizot himself. He is a man skilled in affairs. He will inspire great confidence at the Bourse and among monied men, as representing Moderate and Conservative opinions.

Marine and Colonies.—M. de Tracy, an abolitionist and a philanthropist. He has not all the talents of his illustrious father. He is a mediocre politician, of narrow views, and very obstinate; but he is a truly honest man, and very moderate. He was lately elected Colonel of one of the Legions of the National Guard.

War.—General Rulhière, who is little known. Lamoricière would have been preferred, if he would have separated his lot from that of Cavaignac. General Oudinot, son of the Marshal of the Empire, appears to have refused, and to prefer remaining in command of the army of the Alps. This post, however, it was said, was destined for Marshal Bugeaud, whose support would rally round the Cabinet the old Conservative party; but his name is still too unpopular.

Public Works.—M. Leon Faucher, a young and able representative, with a resolute spirit. He is an advocate for free-trade and a profound economist; and was formerly chief editor of the *Courier Français* and the *Siècle*. In the National Assembly, he has smartly combated Socialist ideas.

Trade and Agriculture.—Should M. Tourret retire, probably M. Fould, the Jew banker, a new representative of Paris, and formerly a Conservative deputy under M. Guizot. He is a very active man, and accustomed to business.

Public Instruction and (probably) Public Worship.—M. de Falloux, a Legitimist and *neo*-Catholic, and a great adversary of the University.

This is a pledge which it is deemed desirable to give to the Clerical and Legitimist party, including that of M. Berryer. Absolute liberty of instruction has been promised; but the Constitution expressly reserves to the State a *surveillance* over all establishments for public instruction. Now, the religious establishments are unwilling to submit. This choice, therefore, is alarming to the Liberal party. It is a Popish invasion. The Protestants, the Jews, and the whole body of secular teachers are very much alarmed at it.

Marshal Bugeaud had an interview with M. Louis Napoleon on Saturday, at which it was agreed that the Marshal should assume the command of the army of the Alps, and that General Oudinot should proceed as ambassador to St. Petersburgh.

There are three candidates spoken of for the Vice-Presidency of the Republic, MM. de Lamartine, Garnier Pagès, and François Arago.

M. Emile de Girardin asked the War Department for his father, General Girardin, and has been refused. He will probably once more be in opposition to the Government. He also asked the office of Minister of Finanee for himself, and, as it was impossible to grant that request, there is already a coolness, which, in a day or two, will probably lead to an open rupture.

There is a Committee of about fifteen persons, whom Louis Napoleon has chosen to assist and advise with him, and they meet every day to deliberate upon the first measures which will be taken by the President.

Prince Louis Napoleon is to inaugurate his advent to the Presidency by a general amnesty, from which will be excepted, however, the prisoners at Vincennes, who are to be tried.

The Amnesty.—An unfair attempt was made in the Assembly on Saturday, to deprive the new President of the merit of proclaiming an amnesty, but it was defeated. On a division on the motion of M. la Grange for a discussion of that question on Monday next, there were for the motion, 217; against it, 374; majority, 157.

Letter from the Pope.—The *Moniteur* publishes the following letter, addressed by the Pope to the President of the Executive Government:—"Mons. le Général,—My heart is touched, and I am penetrated with gratitude for the spontaneous and generous movement of the eldest daughter of the Church, who shows herself anxious and already in action to hasten to the succour of the Sovereign Pontiff. A favourable opportunity will, without doubt, offer itself to me to manifest in person to France my paternal sentiments, and to be able to diffuse over the soil of France with my own hand the benedictions of the Lord, as I now supplicate Him by my voice to consent to diffuse them in abundance over you and the whole of France.—Pius Papa Nonus.—Datum Cajetæ, die 7 Decembris."

GERMANY.

Resignation of the Austrian Members of the Frankfort Cabinet.—During the sitting of the National Assembly on the 15th inst., it was announced that Herr von Schmerling and Herr von Wurth (the only Austrian members of the cabinet) had resigned, and that Herr von Gagern had been summoned to the residence of the Vicar of the Empire. It will be recollected that the above date was the one fixed for the answer of Ministers to questions relating to Austria. It is generally believed that Gagern has accepted the post of president of the council with a portfolio. Austria has refused to acknowledge the new German law relating to bills of exchange; to contribute towards the expense of building a German fleet; and has recalled the Austrian commissioner at the customs congress in Frankfort.

Power of the Head of the Empire.—On the 14th, a majority of 267 against 207 voted against the absolute veto proposed to be invested in the Emperor. Divers amendments were then rejected, which went all the extremes of Parliamentary omnipotence, and at last the following amendment was carried by 274 against 187 votes:—

A decree of Parliament which has not received the sanction of the Head of the Empire shall not be brought forward again in the same session. If Parliament renews the same decree in three ordinary sessions, after repeated discussions, and without modifying it, then it shall become law, after the close of the session, even without the consent of the Head of the Empire.

The secret of this result lies, strange to say, in the political intrigues of the day. The coalition between a number of Austrians and the Left or Radical party has borne its firstfruits. As a counter service for hindering the Prussian supremacy, those Austrian gentlemen who sit on the Conservative benches voted with the Left, and will do so on many questions of importance.

The Church and State Question.—Article 5, which treats of religious liberty, &c., was voted through in the form modified by the committee, without any discussion. It now runs as follows:—

Sect. 14. Every German has complete liberty of belief and of conscience. Nobody is obliged to make known his religious convictions.

Sect. 15. All Germans are unfettered in their common exercise of religion, both domestic and public. Crimes and misdemeanours committed in the use of this liberty shall be punished according to the law.

Sect. 16. The enjoyment of civil and political rights shall in no wise be measured or cut short by anybody's religious confession. This confession may not hinder a person in the fulfilment of his political duties.

Sect. 17. Every religious community regulates and administers its own matters independently, but remains subject to the general laws of the State. No religious community enjoys any privileges before another. There shall be no State-church. New religious communities may be formed; no acknowledgment of their confession by the State is required.

Sect. 18. Nobody shall be forced to any Church act or ceremony.

Sect. 19. The formula of oaths shall in future be this—"As God shall save me" *(So wahr mir Gott helfe)*.

Sect. 20. The civil validity of marriage depends only on the transaction of the civil act; the wedding at church can take place only after the civil act be performed. Difference of religion shall be no legal impediment to marriage.

Sect. 21. The list of births, marriages, and deaths, *(Standesbücher)* shall be kept by the civil authorities.

PRUSSIA.

The King of Prussia lately received a deputation from Breslau, sent to thank him for the granting of a constitution: his reply throws light on the firmer policy of his later government:—

Little of a cheering or friendly character had lately come from Breslau. This was saddening—not to himself, for he was accustomed to ingratitude—but on account of the people. "I will freely acknowledge, that the deputation from Breslau which waited on me in the month of March, brought me the most insulting communication of the kind that was ever laid before a sovereign." The hostile manner had not prevented him from examining the demand without prejudice, or from what was required. But the mass of the people in Silesia were sound. What strengthened and supported him through the last seven months—a period of shame which all true patriots would wish erased from Prussian annals—was, next to God's help, the fidelity of the provincial population. "In Pomerania, in the province of Prussia, in a part of Silesia, but more especially in Westphalia and on the Rhine, and the counties of Mark and Ravensperg, the people have exhibited a spirit of fidelity which has compensated me for much pain. The brave peasantry have not only resisted the incitements to revolt, but frequently it was only with effort they were restrained from hastening to the assistance of their Sovereign. From the Rhine to the Weichsel, they asked for permission to enrol themselves, that we should summon them forth to strike down the enemies of their King. But, God be praised, there has been no occasion for such service; for my enemies have been now as they have ever been—cowardly. They were not the old Prussians: all real Prussians were ready now, as in 1813, to follow the summons of their Monarch. Gentlemen, let your thanks, with mine, be given to the brave population of the provinces. What I have recently done I have been compelled to do for the safety of the country. By God's assistance things will now go better. Let us hope they will; and do you do your part to ensure it. But now receive again my assurance, that your friendly advances have afforded me the greatest pleasure."

The King then shook hands and conversed with members of the deputation, and particularly with one member especially introduced to him—Vogt, a tinman, who single-handed opposed the mob on the 20th November, and protected the town council.

The loyal addresses to the King have been greatly multiplied since the deputation of the Diet, and the granting of the constitution. The military commandant had again suspended some of the journals which had been permitted to re-appear. The New Chambers will hold their sittings in the Royal Palace—the first Chamber in the well-known White Hall.

State of the Prussian Revenue.—The following is from the letter of the *Times'* correspondent, dated "Berlin, Dec. 10. At an early period of the sittings of the late Assembly, a committee was appointed to inquire into the administration of the finances of the country, from 1840 to 1848. The Government submitted all the accounts of the different departments to the committee, and the examination of the immense mass of documents occupied it the whole summer. The report has been drawn up and printed, though not distributed, only a few days before the dissolution. From an analysis of the report now published, several interesting particulars of the income and expenditure of the Prussian Government can be gathered. To begin with the present, it appears the gross revenue of the State for the first three quarters of 1848 was 68,255,615 thalers. Of this amount about 45,000,000 form the actual regular income; 22,827,312 must be considered as derived from extraordinary advances, from funds in hand, and anticipations of revenue. Thus 12,000,000 thalers were drawn from the treasury to cover the expenses of establishing a loan institute, employing destitute labourers, and covering the deficiency caused by the difficulty of collecting the amount of taxes paid in ordinary years. The voluntary loan also produced 10,436,000 thalers. But the events and necessities of the year have exhausted both the ordinary revenue and the extraordinary advances and anticipations, or so nearly that a balance of only 620,898 thalers remains. Had it not been for the voluntary loan and the draught on the resources specified, there would have been an actual deficit on the three quarters of 22,000,000 thalers. Among the items of expenditure are nearly 26,000,000 for the War Department, swelled by the cost of the Schleswig-Holstein campaign.

ROME.

Letters from Rome, dated the 4th inst., state that the greatest quiet reigned there. The Upper Cham[illegible] and the Lower have made common cause. How long matters will remain in *statu quo* it is impossible to say, but the conduct of the King of Naples cannot evidently be tolerated long. He has stopped all inter[illegible] between the Pope and his

subjects, by arresting the further progress of the Roman deputation at the Neapolitan frontier. The French fleet appearing off Civita has caused indignation at Rome, where Mamiani made it a matter of comment in the Lower Chamber on the 6th. Marquis Sacchetti returned to Rome, on the 6th inst., from Gaeta, where he had some difficulty in obtaining an interview with the Pope, who briefly told him he had provided for the affairs of Rome by naming a commission. It is believed orders have been given to arrest General Zucchi. In the session of the Chamber of Deputies of Rome of the 7th, a protestation was voted against all foreign intervention between the Pope and his people.

The *Genoa Gazette* of the 11th says, that on the arrival of the intelligence that the Pope had refused to receive the deputation sent to his Holiness by the Chamber and the senate, it was in contemplation to name a provisional government.

The following extracts from the correspondent of the *Daily News* will be found interesting:—

Meantime the business of the country suffers no interruption. The debates in the Lower House have been resumed, and the subject which occupies the attention of the legislature is one of the most vital importance to this territory—the law of entail and the settlement of mortmain are undergoing a thorough revision, and the most valuable results as to the release of agriculture from thraldom and the distribution of landed property among a better class of cultivators will be the blessed result.

People here look on the arrival of the French flotilla as a mere claptrap of Cavaignac to secure the clergy's vote for the Presidency; and as such Count Harcourt evidently meant it. That ambassador had (it is now known) arranged his plans for the abduction of the Pope to Civita Vecchia, and thence to Marseilles; but the Bavarian Ambassador, De Spaur (who acts for Austria as well), out-generalled the Frenchman, kidnapped the Pope into his own private carriage, and carried him off *by land* to Terracina, and to Cicero's villa near Gaeta, while Harcourt thought he had the Pontiff in the close carriage which brought only Martinez de la Rosa to the steamer Tenare, the captain of which was persuaded that he really had the Pope on board when he left Civita Vecchia. The intrigues of the various envoys here are the subject of scornful ridicule to the whole town.

I have some reason to believe (says the *Times'* correspondent at Naples), that the fugitive Sovereign is in communication with General Zucchi, at Bologna, and that, if necessary, a movement against Rome may take place from that direction; but all serious decision is for the moment suspended, as neither the Pope nor his advisers think it prudent to resort to extreme measures until they see the result of the Paris election. That determination is strengthened by the private intelligence received here from the capital, as all accounts agree in representing the condition of the present Ministry as almost desperate. There is not a shilling in the Treasury, and the proposed issue of about £200,000 in paper money is declared to be impossible.

EGYPT.

Advices from Alexandria to the 8th inst. inform us that his Highness Abbas Pasha, the new Viceroy of Egypt, returned to Suez from Mecca on the 25th of November, and reached Cairo on the following day, when he quietly assumed the authority without opposition or any infringement of the generally prevailing tranquillity. On the 27th his Highness received officially all the European consuls. Very handsome presents of swords and snuff-boxes inlaid with diamonds have been sent to Captain Frushard and the officers, and £400 for distribution among the crew, of the East India Company's steamer "Feroze," which conveyed Abbas from Suez to Jedda and back again; and there is no doubt that his Highness was much gratified at the attention shown to him at the outset of his career by the officers of an English steamer.

On the 2nd inst. a Turkish steamer of war, the Sultan's own yacht, arrived at Alexandria from Constantinople, having on board Mazloum Bey, Minister of Justice at the Sublime Porte, who had been sent to Egypt with the firman nominating Abbas Pasha Viceroy of Egypt, and to invite his Highness to proceed to Constantinople, to be there formally invested with the Viceroyalty of this country. Mazloum Bey went up to meet Abbas Pasha at Cairo, and both were shortly expected at Alexandria to embark for Constantinople in the Turkish steamer.

The first visit that Abbas Pasha paid on his arrival at Cairo was to his grandfather Mehemet Ali, who was much gratified with this mark of attention, which contrasted greatly with the deportment of Ibrahim Pasha, who, from the time that the old man fell into his present childish state never went near him.

Abbas was in great favour with the higher classes of the natives, as he had made several promotions among them, and he was not so pressing as Ibrahim was for the payment of arrears of taxes. He was expected to form a council, with himself as President, for the administration of affairs, and the prosperity of the country will depend on the selection his Highness may make of the members of the Council.

INDIA AND CHINA.

Advices have been received from Bombay to Nov. 16. The following is the summary of the *Bombay Times*:—The troops at Peshawur continue faithful. Attock seems secure. There has been no move on the capital. Chuttur Singh is on the banks of the Upper Indus, and Shere Singh on the Salt Range. Of the Bunnoo deserters nothing of late has been heard. Between the 20th Oct. and 1st. Nov. matters at Mooltan seem to have remained much as formerly, the insurgents and their assailants being equally inactive. Moolraj's force is now affirmed not to exceed 8,000 in strength. General Whish has, ere this, received an accession of about 1,000 in the shape of returned furlough men, so that the regular army under him exceeds that of his opponents in numbers; his allies under Edwardes and Cortland amount to betwixt 12,000 and 16,000. The army now assembled at Roree were expected to move about the present date, and would probably arrive early in December. They are accompanied by a pontoon and a battering train; the last consists of 30 pieces of heavy ordnance, so that on its arrival General Whish will have under him above 120 mortars, howitzers, and guns, of which a half are of the largest calibre. Major-General Auchmuty has been ordered to remain in command of the troops in Scinde. Colonel the Hon. H. Dundas commands the advancing force. On the 1st there had been some sharp skirmishing betwixt Moolraj's men and ours. The brigades of Colonels Godby and Eckford, and the cavalry under Brigadier-General Cureton, have been ordered up from Ferozepore and pushed across the Ravee just beyond Lahore. The force musters in all 7,000 men with 24 guns—3,000 cavalry and 4,000 infantry. Brigadier Wheeler was about to cross about 20 miles higher up the river. The enemy evacuated both the forts he was sent to capture, and they were accordingly occupied and destroyed by us. Troops have been sent up from Ferozepore to take the place of those advanced—the Lahore garrison remains untouched. The Jumoo contingent, despatched by Goolab Singh, under Colonel Steinbach, was moving on the Jhelum, about twenty miles north-west of the fort of Rhotas, some 150 miles from Peshawur, and about as much from Lahore. We have at present nearly 28,000 British troops within the territories of Dhuleep Sing, and shall, before this reaches England, have at least 36,000 beyond the Sutlej and Beeas, with about 30,000 auxiliaries. Some 30,000 regulars are on our north-west frontier. The total number of Sikh malcontents against whom this vast army has been called out, cannot at the highest estimate exceed 33,000—Scinde continues healthy and quiet. Lord Dalhousie was expected at Benares on the 6th, from which place his lordship was to proceed to Meerut and Umballa. Lord Gough was expected to reach Ferozepore on the 5th. He is said to have determined not to undertake any minor operations, or make any movement against detached parties, but was willing rather to permit immunity to the rebels until the plans of Government could be carried out and a considerable force take the field.

The dates from Hong Kong are to October 30th. At Canton and the ports matters keep perfectly quiet. Hong Kong is more healthy than of late, the cool autumn having set in. All her Majesty's troops have been landed during the month, and the three chartered ships have been paid off. We regret having to report that a malignant fever was very prevalent at Shanghae, which had carried off some foreigners; and by the last accounts, of the 21st instant, it had not abated. The sickness is attributed to the unseasonable summer and constant rains. After some correspondence the American Commissioner, the Hon. Mr. Davis, has had an interview with the Governor-General Sew, on the 6th instant, at Canton, which took place at Howqua's residence, and terminated with a banquet.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF SELF-DESTRUCTION occurred a few days ago at Berlin; the dead body of a man was found at daylight by the constabulary in a sitting position on one of the benches in the Thiergarten. From an examination of it, it appeared that the man must have placed a small packet of gunpowder in his mouth, ignited it, and thus blown his head to pieces!

CONSIDERATION FOR "OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT."—The Spanish correspondent of the *Morning Post* describes his recent arrival at the head-quarters of Cabrera, and the distinction with which he was treated "as connected with the English press." Cabrera gave him liberty to visit every part of his force and of his positions; "said that his head-quarters would always be open to me, and that, when either tired of Catalonia or dissatisfied with my mission, I should have passports and an escort to the frontier. All he desired was publicity for his acts, and that the facts of the war should be honestly and truly stated." At a supper in Cabrera's camp, the writer had some singular documents put into his hands by Cabrera—"Christino's correspondence intercepted by the Carlists;" and he promises to send for publication in the *Post* some curious particulars "illustrative of Palace peccadilloes."

THE NEW GOLD REGION.—By the arrival of a vessel at Mazatlan, from St. Francisco, the most extraordinary accounts have been received from the "gold region," Upper California. Previous reports are confirmed and repeated, that from 60,000 to 100,000 dollars daily are extracted. It is said to be about twenty-three carats fine. The vessel before mentioned brought to Mazatlan 75lb., and sold it at 14 dollars 15 cents the ounce. There were several whale-ships and other vessels laid up there, about 16 in all; their crews had deserted and gone to the gold region. There are about 400 whites and a few Indians engaged in the labour of the mines. It is said—taking the general average, and including the time in changing places and seeking better excavations—one ounce of gold daily was the product of each man. The New York journals publish an account from a ship's captain, at Monterey, announcing that his crew had abandoned him, and stating that a sailor will be up at the mines for two months' work on his own account, and come down with from 2,000 to 3,000 dollars. Letters from Washington add to these statements an announcement, that the "Secretary of War has received very interesting communications from California in regard to the gold region. It appears from these documents, that the value of the gold mines in that region has scarcely been overrated, even by the most sanguine of the many adventurers in mining. The documents will be communicated to Congress at the opening of the session."

AFFECTING LETTER OF ROBERT BLUM.—The following letter, written by Robert Blum to his wife an hour before his execution, has been published at Berlin:—"My dear good wife,—Farewell, farewell for the time men call eternity, but which will not be so. Bring up our—now only your—children to be honest men; so they will never disgrace their father's name. Sell our little property with the aid of our friends. God and all good men will help you also. All that I feel and would say at this moment escapes me in tears; only once more, then, farewell, my dearest. Consider our children a treasure of which you must make the best use, and honour thus the memory of your faithful husband. Farewell, farewell; receive the last kisses of your Robert.—Vienna, Nov. 1848, 5 o'clock in the morning; at 6 all will be over.—P.S. I had forgotten the rings; on that of our betrothal I press for you a last kiss; my seal-ring is for Hans, the watch for Richard, the diamond stud for Ida, the chain for Alfred, as memorials. All the rest divide as you please. They are coming—farewell." The letter seems to have been enclosed in one to a friend, a deputy at Frankfort, in which he begs him to prepare his wife gradually for the shock of his death, which he says "is the fortune of war."

A MEETING OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY was held on the 8th inst., in the Juvenile School-room, Bolton-street, East Kennington, the use of which was permitted by the Rev. Charlton Lane, M.A., incumbent of St. Mark's, Kennington, whose cordial co-operation with the Society was further expressed by his presiding on the occasion. The meeting having been opened with prayer, a very appropriate address was given by the rev. chairman, to a goodly number of persons, who, notwithstanding the very unfavourable state of the weather, had assembled in the spacious room. W. Cooke, Esq., M.D., with great kindness exhibited specimens of human stomachs, with a considerable number of drawings of each, in both a healthy and also in various stages of a diseased condition, which was accompanied with a lucid explanation of cause and effect as the direct result of intemperate habits, which, but for the infatuation of the practice, might well deter from the use of ardent spirits, and enjoin most scrupulously the moderate use of all stimulating drinks. Dr. Cooke's valuable lecture was followed by some pungent and affecting facts, which produced a deep impression, by the Rev. Mr. Grieg, curate of Kennington, after which Mr. Thomas Reynolds, the secretary of the Society, fully explained the special object of the meeting, and urged the importance of united effort in order to reclaim the drunkard, and to prevent as much as possible the rising race from being victimized by the temptations to which they are exposed by the drunkard's example, and the attraction which "gin-palaces" present to inexperienced youth, and recommended that prompt and suitable measures should be immediately employed to provide a place in which might be collected that class of persons whose benefit is more especially meditated by this Society, under the firm conviction that an impetus once given to intellectual gratification would not only break the spell by which multitudes are bound, but under the blessing of God would lead also to earnest solicitude on the part of those whose influence, if once enlisted in this cause, might be most efficiently exerted in the circle in which they move. In the absence of some gentleman whose attendance was expected, R. Garde, Esq., B.L., very kindly and ably addressed the meeting. This gentleman's experience gave much effect to his judicious remarks, who, notwithstanding his practice, as a total abstainer assured the meeting that with hand and heart he cordially united with every promoter of temperance, and gave it as his opinion that every lover of his country, every lover of his neighbour, and every lover of his God, was in duty bound to do all in his power to support the British and Foreign Temperance Society, and endeavoured to convince the teetotalers (many of whom were present) that any opposition shown by them to this great moral enterprise was in effect labouring to prevent others from doing good, and at the same time weakened their own influence by rendering themselves obnoxious. The learned gentleman closed his eloquent speech by appending the maxim—"Union is strength, and division weakness." The meeting being protracted beyond its intended limits, now concluded by singing the Doxology.—*From a Correspondent.*

AN AFFECTING INCIDENT is related by a Donegal paper:—"A few nights since, a young boy and his sister, returning from Pettigo homeward, had to cross a mountain. The night was dark and stormy, and they lost their way. Next morning both were found dead from the exposure. The boy and girl lay side by side; the girl with her arm round her brother's neck; and her flannel petticoat, removed from her own person, was wrapped round his feet. Thus did the creature, perhaps, sacrifice her own life in a vain effort to sustain that of her brother."

BUNGLING LEGISLATION.—The recent Act for the Administration of Justice at Petty Sessions renders two summonses necessary, for which two shillings must be paid, while only one shilling was originally required. The same act grants power to the magistrates to issue a search warrant, but gives no power to the constable to act upon it.

IRELAND.

The well-known John Tuam, Archbishop M'Hale, arrived in Dublin from Italy on Tuesday.

Prayers for the Pope.—The *Freeman's Journal* says:—"We understand prayers are being offered up throughout the entire of Catholic Ireland, for the speedy deliverance of his Holiness Pope Pius IX. from all his enemies."

Exclusion of Catholics from Juries.—The presentation of an address to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, complaining of the exclusion of Roman Catholics (as such) from juries, has led to the explanation that the Crown set aside very nearly twice as many Protestants as Roman Catholics, viz.; of the former seventy-one, and of the latter thirty-seven. On Mitchell's trial forty-two persons were set aside by the Crown, of whom twenty-eight were Protestants and fourteen Roman Catholics. On O'Doherty's first trial six were set aside by the Crown, of whom three were Protestants and three Roman Catholics. On his second trial, eighteen were set aside by the Crown, of whom ten were Protestants and eight Roman Catholics. On his third trial, twenty-two were set aside by the Crown, of whom sixteen were Protestants and six Roman Catholics. On Martin's trial twenty were set aside by the Crown, of whom fourteen were Protestants and six Roman Catholics. Thus, on all the five trials, including the two which did not lead to conviction, there were seventy-one Protestants set aside and only thirty-seven Roman Catholics. The fact is, the excluded jurors were not set aside for their religion, but their questionable politics.

Improvement in Trade.—The Dublin correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* accumulates further evidence of improvement in Irish trade. The *Mercantile Advertiser*, quoted as "possessing accurate information on commercial affairs," prints a letter from "one of the most intelligent merchants of Dublin," containing these encouraging passages:—"I consider that the trade of this country is in a healthier state at present than it has been for years; the transactions, no doubt, very much of a retail nature, but out of which no losses accrue, and very few bankruptcies follow. I may mention, what indeed is notorious, that a protested bill, or a dishonoured one, amongst the commercial classes, is quite a rarity; the notary's occupation is therefore nearly gone. It is also well known that the consumption of teas, sugar, and all excisable articles, is steadily on the increase; and as I think the railway pressure is nearly over, as far as Ireland is concerned, I confidently expect to see better times and steadier, ere long."

Progress of Eviction.—The *Tipperary Vindicator* denounces with passionate earnestness the evictions which continue to be a feature of land-management in its district. "We do not say that there exists a conspiracy to uproot the 'mere Irish;' but we do aver, that the fearful system of wholesale ejectment, of which we daily hear and which we daily behold, is a mockery of the eternal laws of God—a flagrant outrage on the principles of nature. Whole districts are cleared. Not a root-tree is to be seen where the happy cottage of the labourer or the snug homestead of the farmer at no distant day cheered the landscape, . . . The ditch-side, the dripping rain, and the cold sleet, are the covering of the wretched outcast the moment the cabin is tumbled over him; for who dare give him shelter or protection from 'the pelting of the pitiless storm?' Who has the temerity to afford him the ordinary rites of hospitality when the warrant has been signed for his extinction? . . . There are vast tracts of the most fertile land in the world in this noble county now thrown out of tillage. No spade, no plough goes near them. There are no symptoms of life within their borders—no more than if they were situated in the midst of the Great Desert—no more than if they were cursed by the Creator with the blight of barrenness. Those who laboured to bring those tracts to the condition in which they are—capable of raising produce of any description—are hunted like wolves, or they perish without a murmur." The only remedy will be the publicity of an inquiry by a Commissioner from Printing-house-square. "Let the *Times*, then, by all means send a Commission to Tipperary. There are able and generous spirits in London, who, we are sure, will perform the duty even in the midst of winter, and let the world know some of the excruciating agonies endured by the 'mere Irish' in this the day of their unparalleled affliction."

Wholesale Emigration.—The journals of the West and of the central South dwell on the immense augmentation to the emigrant tide which the last few months has shown:—"In the week before last," alluding to a letter published by the *Clonmel Chronicle*, "one house in Liverpool is said to have received not less than £9,000, in separate sums of £1 each, as head-money for so many separate families emigrating to America. It is thus that the bone and sinew of the county are rapidly wasting away; all the small farmers are becoming paupers and burdens on the land, and all the large ones are becoming 'levanters,' as in fashionable parlance fraudulent runaways are styled. Other classes, too, of a more respectable and independent kind, are preparing to quit the country. I have met with numerous instances of gentlemen farmers who used to follow the hounds, who kept large establishments with a number of domestic retainers, and gave employment nearly all the year round to the labouring poor of their several districts, also cursing the country and preparing to quit it. 'Damn the country!' is not an unfrequent exclamation amongst those persons; 'latterly it is gone to the Devil entirely.' These persons carry with them when they go from £500 to £1,000 each; and thus some estimate may be formed of the money-drain in Ireland at present."

Now is the Time.—We have frequently insisted on the duty of the public men in Ireland urging the adoption of practical, industrial, and social remedies, and urging it so perseveringly that the cry should become *national*, and being founded in common sense and common justice, must in time succeed. The *Cork Examiner*, after quotations from the *Times*, and this journal, as to the policy we have alluded to, says:—"Now is the time to agitate for *Tenant Right*.—Now is the time to demand long leases, equitable tenures, thorough compensations, and all the other inducements and encouragements to the proper tilling of the soil, and the remunerative reward of the cultivator. The old system, it is now seen, was rotten every way. It beggared tenants and landlords. It made the one extortionate, the other dishonest; if the one was grasping, the other was all careless. The system of *all* rent ended in *no* rent. The competitive usage is done up. Fair leases and fair rents—after all, it must come to that, for in the end, honesty is the best policy. The landholders of Ireland never changed when free-trade let in the agricultural competition of other markets into that of England, which had been before secured to Ireland. They went on distraining, exterminating, and levelling, for the same high rents, as if the price of produce had never been lowered. Even now, some of the best tenants in the country are compelled to pay rents as high as when they covenanted under a system of things which gave them almost exclusively the English market, and did *not* subject them to poor-rates. Surely this is not fair, nor should it be persevered in.—*Jerrold's Newspaper*.

Mr. Duffy's Trial.—At the commencement of the trial, on Friday, the Clerk of the Crown, addressing the reporters, said, "Gentlemen, take notice that none of the proceedings connected with this trial are to be reported." Baron Richards: "Published." Clerk of the Crown: "That none of the proceedings are to be published, or any comments thereon, until the final close of the trial." This order has created great surprise and dissatisfaction in Dublin. An instruction to refrain from commenting no one would object to, because comments might influence or intimidate the jury, but an utter prohibition of publishing mere proceedings of a public court is unaccountable. The effect will be, if the court be obeyed, that the proceedings will not be reported at all, for their interest will cease when the verdict and judgment become known. It is conjectured that the cause of this prohibitory order was, that the *Freeman's Journal* of Friday contained a copy of the panel from which Mr. Duffy's jury is to be taken.

The number of troops in Ireland at the present time is close upon 50,000 men.

There are already 1,500 applications for the professorships of the new colleges, and singularly enough there is not now living a single man who had taken a scholarship in Trinity College for the last fifteen years, save a few who have succeeded in their professions, who are not among the candidates. —*Dublin Correspondent of the Daily News.*

The Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel.—This highly esteemed evangelical minister, now a seceder from the Chuch of England, is maternally descended from an ancient Scotch family in Kincardineshire, and is, besides, paternally related to the noble House of Hamilton, as will be seen by the following sketch:—The lands of Middleton, in Kincardineshire, were in possession of the family of Middleton so early as 1094. In 1660, John Middleton was created Earl of Middleton; but the title was forfeited by the second Earl, Charles, in 1695. From him descended Robert Middleton, who married Helen, daughter of Charles Dundas, son of Sir James Dundas, of Arniston, by whom he had two sons. Charles, his second son, born in 1726, entered the royal navy at an early age; and while commander of a 20-gun ship in the West Indies, by his courage and assiduity, took and destroyed a number of French privateers, and afforded such effectual protection to trade and commerce, that the House of Assembly at Barbadoes voted him their thanks and a valuable sword. In 1758 he was promoted to the rank of post-captain; in 1774, Comptroller of the Navy. In 1781 he was created a baronet, with remainder to his son-in-law, Gerard Noel-Noel. In 1784 he was elected member for Rochester; in 1787, promoted to the rank of rear-admiral; in 1795, to that of vice-admiral; in 1805, admiral of the red squadron of his Majesty's fleet; and in the same year he became First Lord of the Admiralty, a Member of the Privy Council, and a Peer of the realm, by the title of Baron Barham, with remainder to his only child, Diana, wife of Sir Gerald Noel-Noel, great grandson of the fourth Duke of Hamilton. The fruits of this marriage were a family of eighteen children, of whom the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Wriothesley Noel was the sixteenth.—*Witness*.

While an old gentleman, named Nottage, was at meeting at Saffron Waldon, on Sunday morning last, some impudent thieves entered his house and stole £170. On retiring with their booty, they had the assurance to write in chalk on the door, "Watch while you pray."—*Essex Herald*.

The Treadmill.—At a meeting of the Middlesex magistrates, on Thursday, a motion by Mr. Armstrong, "that the labour on the tread-wheel of our prison, having from its establishment to the present time been proved useless and totally inefficient as a reformatory punishment, be discontinued," was rejected almost unanimously.

SCOTLAND.

HIGHLAND OPPRESSION.

(From our Edinburgh Correspondent).

The cruel and outrageous manner in which the poor Celtic population of the north of Scotland have been treated by several Highland proprietors and their factors is well known. It is a theme on which much has been both spoken and written. A very strong and general feeling of sympathy and commiseration has consequently been awakened in favour of the injured clansmen of the north, while their oppressors, on the other hand, have been subjected to no small measure of reproach and condemnation. Attempts have often been made to justify or extenuate the conduct of these Highland lairds, on the ground of their great poverty—their desire to improve their estates—their dislike to see so many people living in hopeless indigence and idleness, &c.; but for my part, I have never seen the charges brought against them of injustice, cruelty, and ingratitude, successfully rebutted. These, I doubt not, will for ever attach a foul stain to their memories, as surely as the bloody atrocities perpetrated on the Highlanders in 1746 will hand down the name of a Cumberland to every coming age loaded with dishonour and execration. It aggravates the conduct of the men, when we know that they at first received a right to their lands, on the condition of supporting a number of trusty vassals, who should be ready to maintain and defend the cause of their sovereign in the field. The poor Celts have, consequently, from father to son, possessed their small crofts, and their rude huts, for many a successive age, and never have they forfeited their claim to them from any dereliction of duty. No race of men were ever more faithfully devoted and attached to their superiors. They loved and reverenced them to a fault. To them the word of a chief was law. His wish required only to be expressed to be obeyed. No task was too arduous to be performed; no sacrifice too great to be made for his honour and benefit. They toiled for his support; they guarded him from danger; they revenged his wrongs; they followed him to the battle-field, and shed the last drop of their blood in his defence. By their rigid adherence to their notions of duty and allegiance, they at times suffered almost unparalleled miseries and cruelties.

It was to be expected, then, that the men whose kindred had done and suffered so much in the service of their chiefs would have been treated with favour, or, at all events, with leniency. It makes one sorry to say that in many instances the very reverse of this has been the case. The Highland proprietors began by degrees to deprive them of their ancient privileges, to wring from them any little property that they possessed, and at length nothing would satisfy them but to clear them off their estates altogether. Hundreds and thousands of them have hence been under the necessity of leaving their native straths, and escaping from their persecutors to the wilds of America. Against others of them, who have more tenaciously clung to the possessions of their forefathers, the myrmidons of the law, with bands of subservient menials, have been let loose to burn or demolish their miserable habitations, and to drive them from the district by brute force. These people, so treated, have taken up their abode in a churchyard, or on a mountain-side, where, after enduring the rigours and privations of those inclement and inhospitable regions for a time, they have been compelled, at last, to withdraw to strange lands, far from those mountain homes which they loved so well, and to which they were attached with a strength of feeling of which the inhabitants of more favoured climes have scarcely any adequate conception. Whole districts, once well-peopled with a rude, it may be, but still with a hardy, brave, and contented race, now present an entire scene of desolation and sterility; and all this has been effected for the paltry and unprofitable purpose of allowing grouse, deer, or sheep to roam amid these solitary wilds undisturbed.

A few weeks ago a case of Highland oppression was brought under my notice by one of the principal sufferers, and as it presents some rather aggravated features, it is perhaps right to make it known. It is but fair to state that I have only heard one side of the case; the other party, though requested, having, as yet, declined to offer any contradiction of the allegations brought against him:—About forty-eight years ago a woman named Macleod, and her husband, took up their abode on a small patch of unclaimed waste land or meadow in the parish of Eddrachillis, in the county of Sutherland. A person named Alexander Mackay, having married one of their daughters, also built a hut on it, which he and his family have possessed twenty-three years. No rent or feu-duty was ever demanded from any of these people till the year 1839, when the minister of the parish laid claim to the ground on which the hut stood as a part of his glebe. None of his predecessors had ever possessed or claimed it before; the landmarks, which were always understood to point out the boundaries of the glebe, were distinctly visible, and excluded the patch of meadow in question, and all the people in the parish concurred in the opinion that it formed no part of the glebe. Legal proceedings were then instituted to eject these poor people from their humble possession, but from some cause or other these proceedings were dropped, and they continued to occupy it without molestation. At the memorable era of the disruption the minister resigned his living, and was succeeded by Mr. Stewart, the present incumbent. This gentleman, though perhaps aware of the claim which had at one time been preferred by his predecessor to the dis-

puted piece of ground, said very little about it till the spring of the present year, when Mackay got notice that he had lodged a petition and complaint with the sheriff to the effect that Mackay was keeping violent possession of a portion of his glebe, and that the necessary legal steps should be taken to remove the parties settled upon it. On receiving this intimation, Mackay proceeded on foot to Dornock, the county town, a distance of seventy miles, and employed an agent to lodge answers to the minister's petition. Mr. Lumsden, the sheriff depute, having considered the documents, decided in favour of Mackay, and ordered his expenses to be paid. It would seem, however, that the case was afterwards submitted to the sheriff substitute, who reversed the former decision and decreed against Mackay, finding him liable in £5 of expenses. A charge was accordingly made upon him for this sum, but he declared that he was neither willing nor able to pay it. At length Mackay and his wife went from home, when the minister having procured the assistance of a legal functionary and some other individuals, proceeded to the wretched hovels erected on the ground in dispute, ejected the old woman Macleod, now a widow, and upwards of seventy years of age, and Mackay's five helpless children, and then tossed out their furniture and their little stock of provisions with such violence that they were very much damaged or destroyed. After they had left nothing within but naked walls, they nailed up the doors and windows, and seizing on one or two cows belonging to these poor creatures, handed them over to the minister to pay expenses, and then departed in great merriment at the havoc they had made. The old woman and the children being thus rendered houseless, sat down on the side of an adjoining hill, exposed to the inclemency of the weather, and at night crept into a sheep's cot. The minister, seeing that they had taken possession of this miserable place, and being apparently determined to drive them from that part of the country altogether, once more mustered his band of destructives. On this occasion they armed themselves with hammers and axes, and, attacking the deserted dwellings, very soon laid them in ruins. They then set them on fire, and as they were principally composed of turf and wood, they were speedily reduced to a heap of smouldering ashes. At this stage of the proceedings Mr. Gordon, a physician in that district, interposed, and declared that he would not allow the sheep cot in which the ejected party had taken refuge to be destroyed, unless the minister, and other members of the Parochial Board then present, would guarantee to find them accommodation elsewhere. This humane gentleman has been the means, it may be said, in the hand of Providence, of preserving the lives of these poor, persecuted individuals. He took care that they should be supplied with food, and when some of the children were attacked with disease, he paid them every attention.

When Mackay came home, and found all things in desolation, he went again to Dornock, but he failed to get either an interview with the legal gentlemen there, or any satisfactory information from them, so he came off to Edinburgh, in the hope of finding some person in this city to take up his case and procure him redress. He accordingly told his story to a legal gentleman here, who, I believe, has promised to institute an inquiry into the case. Such are the particulars of this act of Highland oppression, so far as I have learned them from Mackay and others. It may be true that Mackay and his mother-in-law have no legal right to the spot on which their huts stood; still, if the narrative be correct, it shows that they have been treated with great severity and cruelty, and that, too, by a person paid by the State to teach and exemplify the precepts of kindness, charity, and good-will. The whole, in short, is no bad specimen of the way in which our poor and peaceable population in the Highlands are often treated.

The Jamaica-row Young Men's Society for Religious, Moral, and Intellectual Improvement.—The third anniversary of this Society was celebrated on Wednesday evening, the 13th instant, in the spacious vestry adjoining the chapel, when upwards of 130 ladies and gentlemen sat down to an excellent tea with the Rev. George Rose, who kindly acted as chairman on the occasion. The table being cleared, Mr. Rose opened the proceedings of the evening by calling upon young men, as the regenerators of the present age, and as the hope of the coming one, to bestir themselves, and to act for God, and for the claims of religion and morality. Upon them, under the Divine blessing, rested this responsibility. This was followed by a condensed and most interesting report of the Society's proceedings during one of the most eventful years of the world's history; after which, speeches from two or three of the members were listened to with great attention. Anthems were sung at intervals, by an efficient body of singers; and the usual thanks being voted at the close to the Chairman, and the ladies who had honoured the Society with their presence, the whole passed off with the highest satisfaction to the members and company present.

Great Meeting in the Free-Trade Hall.—We understand that it is in contemplation to hold a great meeting in the Free-trade Hall immediately after Christmas—probably on the 4th of January—at which Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Gibson, are expected to be present. We are not at liberty to enter into details, but may state that the important questions of Parliamentary and Financial Reform will be then discussed; and it is not unlikely that a scheme of operations, having reference particularly to a general registration of electors, will be developed. —*Manchester Examiner*.

LAW AND POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

The Royal Etchings.—In the Court of Chancery, on Wednesday, before Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce, Mr. Russell moved the dissolution of the injunction lately granted against Mr. Strange and others on the application of the Queen and Prince Albert. The arguments *pro* and *con.* occupied the whole of Wednesday and most of Thursday; but the grounds of defence may be briefly stated. The plaintiff complained of an intended exhibition of certain etchings, and of the publication of a descriptive catalogue. The defendant alleges that he never had possession of any of the etchings, or control over them; and had abandoned all participation in any joint scheme of exhibiting them, as soon as he learnt her Majesty's objection. But he claims the legal right to publish his descriptive catalogue: at present he has not published at all, but has only printed some fifty private copies. As a pleading point, it was objected by his counsel, that the ownership of each particular etching by the Queen or the Prince, or the joint ownership, was not set out by their bill. The 3 and 4 Vic. cap. 3, enacts that the Queen's marriage with Prince Albert shall not give him any estate or interest in her property. The interest of each plaintiff in the property litigation must always be shown before he can claim redress of an injury to it. The Vice-Chancellor asked for documents, and reserved his judgment.

Trials for Conspiracy at Liverpool.—At Liverpool, on Monday, before the South Lancashire Special Commission of Assize, Francis O'Donnell, Peter Herbert Delamere, and eight other prisoners, most of them merchants' clerks enjoying good situations, were indicted for conspiracy and sedition. The prisoners were men of some education, who exercised special influence in the Chartist and Confederate movements of last June, in accord with the Irish insurrection; and were on that account prosecuted as worthy of exemplary punishment. The trials lasted three days, but had no distinctive interest: the prisoners were all found guilty, and were sentenced to imprisonment for periods varying with the criminality of each, from a month to two years.

John Bleasdale, the man charged with extensive robberies of coal by mining under Wigan, and for whose capture a reward of £100 was offered in January last, has at length been arrested, in London.

Alleged Plunders of the Tuileries and of the Chateau of Neuilly.—At Marlborough-street Police-office, on Saturday week, Eugene Saulier, or "Baron de Saulier," and Marie Delonie, otherwise "Baroness Richmond de Bassain," were charged with having unlawful possession of valuable property belonging to the Count de Neuilly. It appeared from the statement of Mr. Bodkin, who acted for Louis Philippe, and from the evidence, that an old gentleman and the two persons at the bar had recently arrived from France, and were staying at the Prince of Wales Hotel in Leicester-street. It was found that they were endeavouring to dispose of property which had belonged to the Count de Neuilly when King, and a warrant was obtained from a magistrate. The old gentleman was found in bed, suffering from paralysis, and an officer was placed over him; the two prisoners were with the old gentleman; in the rooms were discovered valuable property—jewellery, shawls, and a portion of a painting, cut from a large one—altogether worth £4,000; it was expected that a necklace worth £13,000 would have been seized, but this was missing. One of the shawls had been all but sold for £500. General Alfred de Chabanne, one of the ex-King's Aides-de-camp, identified the property as having belonged to the Royal Family. Mr. Bodkin asked for a remand of the prisoners. Mr. Wontner, who appeared for the defence, said that the old gentleman had bought the jewellery at Paris, as his papers would show; he denied the competency of an English tribunal to deal with the matter—not that he had any objection to a proper investigation. Ultimately, the accused persons were liberated on bail, to appear again in a week; the property seized to remain in the hands of the police. On Saturday, the inquiry into the matter was resumed before Mr. Hardwick and a crowded court. It was thought that the legal difficulties in the way of procuring a conviction would be insurmountable; therefore it was very unlikely that any final decision could have been arrived at in this court, even had no circumstances arisen to impede the ordinary progress of the investigation. Mr. Bodkin, addressing the magistrate, said "that since the adjournment of the case M. Bapst, lately the jeweller of Louis Philippe, had come over from Paris. The articles were submitted to his inspection, and M. Bapst, after examining them stated, that although there was a close resemblance between the articles produced and articles of the same kind belonging to the Royal Family, yet they were not jewellery belonging to the Royal Family, though the articles had evidently been made in imitation of the Royal jewels, and bore so close a resemblance to them, that they might be properly described as facsimiles, and nobody but a jeweller could distinguish them from similar articles belonging to the Royal Family. I cannot help saying, considering that these articles present all the appearance of similar articles belonging to the Royal Family, and that they are found in the possession of parties who have also possession of a picture about which there is no question of ownership, that, here, one of those strange and unaccountable coincidences in the course of human affairs has arisen, which is useful so far, as enabling us to render credence to works of fiction, to which such matters are principally confined. With respect to the other articles, the same forbearance in not claiming the property as belonging to the Royal Family will be exercised, and the same course taken as in the case of the more valuable articles." Mr. Wontner then vindicated the character of the Baron de Bassagnes, who was ready to show how he became possessed of the articles in question. The defendants were about to be discharged when a Custom-house officer came forward and seized the whole of the property, on the ground that the articles consisted of foreign goods which had come into this country without paying duty. Seals were placed on the property in order that the articles might be subjected to Custom-house scrutiny. The defendants were liberated.

Extraordinary Accident on the Eastern Counties Railway.—An accident occurred on Sunday morning at the Witham station of the Eastern Counties Railway, happily unattended with any loss of life. A luggage train arrived at the station about a quarter to three o'clock, bringing in safety two barrels of gunpowder, one for Braintree and one for Maldon, one weighing 3qrs. 6lb. and the other 3qrs. 17lb. These barrels, which were on the last truck, were taken off at Witham, where the Maldon and Braintree line joins, and placed by the porter at the station, who acts as night inspector on the up-line, whilst he went into the office, as he explains it, to book his train. The mail train to London arrives at the station at four minutes to three, and the powder had not been on the line more than eight or ten minutes before that train came up. It stopped short of the barrels, but on moving on again passed immediately over them, and some of the cinders from the fire-box falling upon the powder, the barrels immediately exploded! The scene that ensued was frightful. The carriages were thrown off the line, and all sustained more or less damage by the severity of the shock. The engine, however, for a few moments maintained its course, showing that the explosion could not have absolutely taken place until it had passed over the barrels. It is supposed to have occurred whilst the carriage called the guard's brake was in the act of passing. The explosion shook the houses in Witham, which is half a mile off, and is said to have been heard at Colchester, fourteen miles distance. In the more immediate vicinity of the station the windows of the houses were completely shattered. Of course the consternation was immense. When people had recovered their fright they began to look after the passengers and persons attending the train. The engineer and stoker were found to be stunned, but not otherwise hurt. The guard had his arm bruised only, and the passengers, of whom there were twelve, were only much alarmed. The line was torn up for a short distance, and was replaced as speedily as possible. Some of the rails were bent in an extraordinary way. The train was delayed two hours at the station; a fresh engine and carriage having, of course, to be provided. This accident is to some extent attributable to the short-handedness of the company's servants, who, all down the line, appear to have infinitely too much to do. The miraculous way in which every one escaped this terrible accident is a subject of the most lively gratitude.

Phonetic Spelling.—The amount of ignorance and consequent misery and crime, which prevails in our country, has called the attention of the whole nation to devise means for reducing it. After trying the punishing system for years, men have at last perceived that the preventive is the most effectual, and educational establishments for the poor are consequently rising fast over the country. The reports of the commissioners sent by government to examine their efficiency, are, however, very discouraging. While we know that one half of our population is unable to write, and one third unable to read, it is melancholy to find it stated by Mr. Mosely, in reference to 217 schools of the midland district examined by him, that *one half of the children leave the schools, and are absorbed into the labouring community of the country, not being able to read or write.* An attempt is now being made to strike at the cause of this deplorable result of charitable efforts to increase the knowledge of our labouring poor. The cause is simply the great difficulties which they experience in learning to read, owing to the absurdities and complexities of our present mode of spelling, to some of which we intend referring at a future period. A system of spelling has been devised by Messrs. Isaac Pitman and Alexander John Ellis, B.A., which will render the acquisition of reading a pleasure instead of a task, and brief instead of insufferably long. This system has been already so far developed, and has found so many supporters, that we perceive Mr. Ellis publishes a regular weekly newspaper, wholly printed in accordance with his system of orthography. The experiment is a bold one, and deserving of success.

Mr. Cobden and National Arbitration.—It has been stated lately, that Mr. Cobden has made good use of the Parliamentary recess by searching thoroughly into our national expenditure; and that he is prepared, on the re-assembling of the Legislature, to recommend reductions to the extent of many millions a year, without at all impairing the efficiency or proper working of the really essential parts of the State machinery. We have reason to believe the statement is well-founded; and we are therefore glad to perceive that meetings are about to be held in Leicester and other towns, "to consider what steps should be taken to support Mr. Cobden's intended motion in the House of Commons in favour of the settlement of all future differences between nations by arbitration." We doubt not that our worthy mayor will have a numerous meeting over which to preside, on Wednesday evening next.—*Leicester Mercury*.

A Pretext Exposed.—On the question of the Ballot, the knowledge is daily spreading, that it is what the officers take care to have for themselves, and try to make the rank and file do without. A timid colonel of dragoons cannot be expected to give an honest opinion on a court-martial upon oath, unless sheltered by the privilege of secret voting. A private soldier who should covet the same security at an election is to be a coward who wants to evade the duties of a man! It is time the rank and file of civil society should look into this. More curious infelicity has seldom been displayed, than in the last objection to the Ballot started in high places. There ought not to be the Ballot, because *voting is a duty*. Is, then, the voting on a court-martial not a duty? and is it not simply because it is a duty, and in order that the duty may have a better chance of being performed, that the vote is to be secret? Not a word, then, of the duty of men's sacrificing themselves for principle. In that case, the ruler desires the exercise of principle; and in the other, he does not.—*From an article in the Reformer's Almanack, entitled, "the Demands of Reformers."*

The Arbitration Movement.—A series of meetings has been held during the past week, in the principal towns in Lancashire, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament in favour of the motion to be brought forward by Mr. Cobden, early in the ensuing session, for arbitration instead of war, as a means of settling international disputes. These meetings have, in most cases, been crowded to excess, and the statements and appeals made by the various speakers, were received with an enthusiasm and unanimity which augurs well for the success of this important movement. Elihu Burritt and the Rev. Henry Richard attended the meetings, as a deputation from the Peace Congress Committee of London, and were zealously supported by many leading and influential men in each of the towns they visited. Resolutions to petition Parliament were voted by acclamation; and, if we mistake not, the voice of Lancashire pronounced so decidedly in favour of a national practical policy for securing unarmed peace, will not be lost upon the House and upon the country.

Mr. S. O'Brien.—At a special general meeting of the Oxford and Cambridge University Club, on Friday, it was resolved to adjourn the question of excluding Mr. Smith O'Brien till the annual general meeting of the club. Mr. O'Brien is thus allowed an opportunity of resigning, or allowing his membership to lapse by non-payment of the annual fees. He is not a member of any other club in London.

Whig Intolerance in the Nineteenth Century.—The chief magistrate of a certain borough in the North Riding of Yorkshire has recently declared, on two separate occasions, that he is entirely opposed to the education of the working classes, and that he considers it an unmitigated evil. One seldom now hears such an avowal from the most bigoted of any of the Castlereagh school; but what must excite the greater astonishment of intelligent men, is, that the said gentleman assumes the colour of a Whig, and has ever been looked upon as one of the leading Reformers of the borough. Surely such sentiments are a reflection, not only on the individual who utters them, but on the council who elects such an officer as its chief magistrate.—*From a Correspondent.*

A Seizure of Sweets, or bon bons, was lately made in the market of Montrose, which on examination were found to contain forty-five per cent. of flour, eighteen of plaster of Paris, and only thirty-six of sugar. The whole stock was thrown into the river, and the confectioner is to be further punished.

Twenty-four Men of Southwold have behaved with noble gallantry in navigating the life-boat of that place during a heavy gale of wind; gaining a wreck on the Barnard Sand, many miles off, and rescuing two men who were on the point of perishing. The master, the mate, and a boy, had been drowned. The vessel was the "Ury," from Sunderland to Dunkirk. A few minutes after the rescue not a vestige of the wreck remained.

Christmas Holidays.—The directors of the principal railways have perfected arrangements by which the public will be able to avail themselves of the double-journey tickets during the entire Christmas holidays. The issues on the 23rd or intervening days will be available up to the 26th, and on the 30th up to the 2nd of January inclusive. The Christmas-day time-tables on most lines are the same as Sundays.

Sunday Travelling on Railways.—This subject will be brought before parliament next session, with the view of binding railway companies by act of parliament to carry passengers on Sundays throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland, at the same fares as on week days.—*Chronicle.*

Accident to Dykes Alexander, Esq.—A serious accident, we regret to say, occurred to this venerable and universally-esteemed gentleman, on the evening of Monday week. Mr. Alexander was spending the evening at Mr. Fox's, of Rushmere, and when passing through a passage leading from the kitchen entrance into the hall, he opened a door with the intention of entering the drawing-room. It unfortunately happened, that he opened by mistake the door leading to the cellar, and fell with much violence down a flight of stone stairs, sustaining some severe injuries in consequence. He was as quickly as possible removed home, and placed under the medical care of Mr. Hammond, who observed that his injuries were of a serious character. In the course of a few hours the venerable sufferer became insensible, and has since remained in a precarious state. On Sunday the patient was somewhat better, but our last accounts state, that during the night medical aid was suddenly required, and that there is ground for fearing that the case may end fatally.—*Ipswich Express.*

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, December 20, Two o'clock.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

France.—Paris, Tuesday.—The Committee of the Assembly has ascertained the complete returns of forty-eight departments, which give the following results:—Total number of registered electors, 4,613,956; votes delivered, 4,596,255; Buonaparte, 3,540,712; Cavaignac, 825,061; Ledru Rollin, 197,628; Raspail, 31,084; Lamartine, 13,104. Hence it appears, that every 100 votes delivered were distributed in the following manner:—Buonaparte, 77; Cavaignac, 17¾; Ledru Rollin, 4¼; Raspail, ¾; Lamartine, ¼. The journals to-day publish the list of the Ministers, agreeing in all respects with that previously given. Marshal Bugeaud is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the army of the Alps. Nothing is yet decided respecting the Vice-Presidency of the Republic, the Prefecture of the Seine, or the Chief of the Post-office, M. Veillard having refused the latter.—*Daily News.*——By Electric Telegraph.—Our Paris correspondence of yesterday announces that Prince Louis Napoleon had already a majority of more than four millions over General Cavaignac. M. Bixio had been appointed Minister of Commerce. Paris was perfectly tranquil. M. Zarco del Valle, the Spanish Envoy, was to quit St. Petersburgh on the 17th instant, having failed in procuring the recognition of Queen Isabella by the Emperor of Russia.—*Times* of this morning.

Italy.—An extraordinary meeting of the Chamber of Deputies of Rome was held on the 8th inst. The President, M. Sturbinetti, informed the Assembly that he had convoked it in order that it might hear the report of the deputation sent to Gaeta. The Report was then given in, which told only of the failure of the mission. A committee was then proposed, to consist of five members, who, after inquiring into the situation of the country, should adopt, in conjunction with the Ministry, measures necessary for the scrutiny of the State. The Prince of Canino opposed the appointment of a committee, on account of the fatal delays it might be attended with, and then moved the establishment of a regency, composed of two laymen and a clergyman. The Minister Galetti supported the proposition of M. Pantaleoni, which was carried, and the Assembly elected as commissioners Messrs. Sturbinetti, Fusconi, Rezzi, Sereni, and Lunetti. The President having invited them to meet immediately, the Chamber adjourned. Rome was perfectly tranquil.

Sardinia.—The *Concordia* of the 14th announces that M. Vincent Gioberti has been charged by King Charles Albert with the construction of the new Sardinian Cabinet. According to a letter from Milan of the 12th it was reported that a conspiracy had been discovered at Venice, for the purpose of delivering the city into the hands of the Austrians, and that General Pepe had caused Prince Giovanelli and several other noblemen, accomplices of his treason, to be shot.

Germany.—The correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from Frankfort, on the 16th inst., says:—"The canvass for the imperial crown goes on briskly. After the *soirée* of the Archduke John came the *soirée* of M. Kamphausen, the King of Prussia's envoy to the Central Authority. Rumours of all kinds are in circulation, and it is impossible to detect where truth ends and falsehood begins. It has been reported for some days that Bavaria is strongly opposed to the making the King of Prussia Emperor."

IRELAND.

Dublin, Tuesday.—The point raised in Mr. Duffy's case received the expected disposal yesterday morning. Both the learned judges held that the whole of the cases previous to the passing of the act 6 Geo. IV. cap. 51, were against the case made on behalf of Mr. Duffy, and that there was nothing in the act to take it out of the operation of those decisions.

But the counsel for the prisoner had not stated all their objections, and on Mr. Duffy being called on to plead to the indictment, his counsel handed in on his behalf a plea of abatement, on the ground of the disqualification of two of the grand jury who found the bill. This plea the crown thought of sufficient importance to take time to consider.

There were five cases of cholera in the North-house at Belfast during Saturday, Sunday, and yesterday, all fatal. The disease has, therefore, established itself in the northern capital.

Leith.—Financial Reform.—On Saturday, a meeting of merchants and others was held in the Assembly-hall, Leith, for the purpose of considering the expediency of forming a Financial Reform Association, similar to those lately established in Liverpool, Edinburgh, and other large towns. Provost M'Laren occupied the chair. Mr. Berry, merchant, moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting now form themselves into an Association for the purpose of adopting measures to press on the Government, by petition and otherwise, the absolute necessity of retrenchment in the expenditure of the country, in so far as can be effected with a due regard to the maintenance of the national credit and efficiency of the executive." The motion was seconded, and unanimously agreed to. A committee was then appointed to conduct the affairs of the society.

Further Prorogation of Parliament.—This being the day to which Parliament stood prorogued, their lordships met, shortly after two o'clock, for the purpose of further proroguing Parliament until Thursday, the 1st of February next, then to meet for the despatch of business. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Langdale, and Lord Campbell, having taken their seats as the Lords Commissioners, Mr. Pulman, the Deputy-Usher of the Black Rod, summoned the Commons to the bar to hear the commission for proroguing Parliament read, shortly after which, Mr. H. Ley, accompanied by several officers of the House of Commons, and only one member, the Hon. Mr. Campbell, appeared at the bar. The Chief Clerk at the table having read the commission, the Lord Chancellor, in her Majesty's name, and by her Majesty's command, declared the Parliament prorogued to Thursday, the first day of February, to be then holden; and it was prorogued accordingly.

Representation of Bolton.—Sir Joshua Walmsley arrived at Bolton, by invitation, on Monday, to explain to the electors his political views—his visit having reference to the expected vacancy, by the retirement of Dr. Bowring. A second edition of the *Manchester Examiner*, and *Times* of yesterday, says, "His opinions were considered so satisfactory, that it was agreed to call a public meeting of the whole body of electors for this evening, in order that he might be adopted as a candidate if found to be generally acceptable to the constituency. There is every reason to suppose that he will unite the suffrages of the Liberal electors. Sir Joshua stated to the meeting last evening that he goes with Mr. Hume, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Bright, and other members of the Reform party, in advocating economy and retrenchment, reduction of the army and navy expenditure, extension of the suffrage, and other liberal measures. Most of our readers are aware, no doubt, that Sir Joshua is chairman of the association formed last year for obtaining those objects. His answers to several questions put to him by Chartist electors on the suffrage question were such as to warrant the supposition that their support will not be withheld from him. Considering that Sir Joshua comes among the electors of Bolton an entire stranger to them, it is highly gratifying to find him at once producing so favourable an impression."

The Cholera.—Yesterday, the Board of Health received reports of the following new cases:—Whitechapel, 7; Bromley St. Leonard's, 1; Islington, 1 fatal; Wandsworth, 1 fatal; Liverpool, 7, 6 fatal; Edinburgh, 17, 11 fatal; Glasgow, 79, 26 fatal; Maxwelltown, 18, 8 fatal; Clossburn, 1; total, 132, 53 deaths. Yesterday, the "Asheny," convict-ship, from Woolwich for Hobart-town, arrived at the Quarantine-ground, Motherbank, having cholera on board. The surgeon of the "Victory," flag-ship at Portsmouth, was sent off to render assistance. It will be seen that our Dublin correspondent reports five fatal cases as having occurred at Belfast.

The Deaths in London during the week ending December 16th, numbered 1,130—the average being 1,154. Scarletina, typhus, and hooping cough, are still the most prevalent and fatal diseases. Cholera destroyed 29, and scarletina 113 lives during the seven days. The births during the week were 1,397. The mean temperature was 50 deg. 2 min.

The New President of the Poor-law Board.—We (the *Globe*) hear that Mr. Baines, Q.C., will succeed the late Charles Buller at the head of the Poor-law Board.

The Peace Movement.—Newark.—A correspondent writes:—"We had a meeting here last evening (Monday), which was well attended, to hear a lecture from the Rev. H. Richard, on the principles of the Peace Society. The lecturer handled his subject manfully, and was listened to with great attention. The startling statements that were brought forward have roused the minds of the people of this town, and a committee was formed to carry out the objects of the Society."

Coolie Emigration from Singapore.—The subject of coolie emigration from Singapore to the Australasian colonies has been taken up by the *Straits Times*. A vessel, the "Philip Laing," took away to Port Phillip about 200 coolie labourers, to be employed in the colonies. The *Times* clearly established the fact, that the shipment of natives of India from Singapore was in defiance of Act 14 of 1838, which makes it a misdemeanor, directly or indirectly, to induce or hire natives of the Company's territory to be employed otherwise than as specially excepted; but recommends that Singapore be made a *depôt* for the shipping of coolies for the colonies, under the supervision of an emigration agent. These 200 coolies consisted of the idle dregs of the settlement—diseased, drunken, worthless men, who neither know how, nor wished to, labour; and the whole of these human beings were allowed by the authorities to go away in a ship in which neither medicine nor a medical man was on board, many being carried on board in a drunken state, utterly unconscious of the contract to which they had unwittingly been made parties. The subject has since been taken up by the local authorities, but not until after the vessel was allowed to depart.—*Daily News.*

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, Wednesday, Dec. 20.

Wich Grain fresh in since Monday we are but scantily supplied. The trade is without animation to-day, but the little doing is on Monday's terms.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 1,110; Foreign, 2,910 qrs. Barley—English, 4,950; Foreign, 2,140 qrs. Oats—English, 530; Irish, 400; Foreign, 3,150 qrs. Flour—English, 1,420 sacks.

From its extensive circulation—far exceeding most of the journals of a similar character published in London—the *Nonconformist* presents a very desirable medium for Advertisements, especially those relating to Schools, Books, Articles of General Consumption, Situations, and Appeals for Philanthropic and Religious Objects. The terms are low:—

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"S. T. Smith." Easter-offerings may be legally demanded and recovered, to the amount (we believe) of 4d. a-head.

"Albertus." His blank-verse limps somewhat, and his story is constructed on a strange improbability.

"J. R." He means, we suppose, "The Politics of Christianity." They are not published in a collected form.

"Frederic Riddie's" letter proceeds on an entire misapprehension of the speaker's meaning. His reference was to *pecuniary* endowments for the support of religion.

"J. W. L." We cannot undertake to return rejected MSS.; it involves both trouble and expense. We trust our correspondents generally will bear this in mind.

"A Union Schoolmaster." Surely, the worse the condition of paupers, the more need they have of Christian teachers.

"W. E. F." We have already referred to, as well as inserted, the pith of it.

"One of the Disfranchised." Next week.

Our remarks on Mr. Tidman's letter must be postponed also till next week.

"H." will surely see, on reflection, that the publication of his letter would trespass upon the limits of delicacy.

"E. H." They are not.

"G. W. Tillingham" must pay the demand, however unrighteous.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20, 1848.

SUMMARY.

"A MERRY Christmas to you," kind readers, "and a happy new year!" Yes! we are whirled round once more to the fireside season—the period of family reunions—the visible limit which separates between the year past and the year to come. The past twelvemonth has been, meteorologically, one of many tears—politically, one of great changes—socially, one of protracted trials—providentially, one of signal mercies. Commotion has raged all round us, but we have escaped—pestilence has reached our shores, but his ravages as yet are wonderfully restrained. Commerce has drooped, and trade has been sorely stricken—but the cloud is beginning to turn towards us its bright side. The year has quickened in the bosom of our people, we verily believe, the germ of better things hereafter. We shall enter upon a new year with the light of hope upon our brow. We have seen, perhaps, the worst, at least for a season—and in the present, we think we discover many promises for the future. So, peace and prosperity to you all, gentle readers! May pure enjoyments fall to your lot as Christmas gifts! And whilst grateful for what you have, may you remember in charitable sympathy those who have not!

The West Riding election has come off—somewhat differently from our anticipation of the result. Sir Culling Eardley has been beaten by his competitor, Mr. Beckett Denison, by nearly three thousand votes. The returns suggest the true character of the struggle. In those polling districts which are purely agricultural, and under the political dominion of aristocratic families, whether Whig or Tory, Mr. Denison distances his opponent. In the large manufacturing districts, Leeds excepted, Sir Culling Eardley heads the poll. More than two-thirds of the whole constituency exercised the franchise, and the number of votes recorded for Sir Culling—close upon 12,000—speaks much for the activity of his friends. On the one question on which we felt specially interested in this election, the West Riding has pronounced a verdict which none can misinterpret. We cannot, consequently, pretend to a very keen disappointment. True! the ground on which Mr. Denison repudiates the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy is narrow enough—but, in this respect, Sir Culling gave us but small satisfaction. His refusal to meddle, at present, with the Protestant Establishment in Ireland, whatever might be his motive, placed him in a position of inconsistency with his own principles, and neutralized much of the little interest we felt in his success. His moderation, if so serious a fault can pass under so respectable a title, gained nothing for him. His opponents did not credit it—his friends were disheartened by it. The contest, however, is now over. The Voluntaries of the West Riding have displayed their power. They can easily put themselves into a position to secure a triumph. Steady work, and a little more courage, will enable them, at the next election, to defy aristocratic coalitions. As it is, Sir Culling Eardley's defeat is more creditable to their spirit than was Lord Morpeth's return.

The minor elections present no feature of interest. Leominster hears its candidates, but refuses to pledge itself either way. Its habits have been corrupt, and it waits for a bid. In this, it will probably be disappointed. Mr. Peel dare not expose himself and his name to the charge of bribery—and Sir E. L. Bulwer has clearly made up his mind that he will not. The honourable baronet roundly rates the constituency for indecision of purpose, and promises that, if much longer exhibited, he will bid them adieu.

The struggle for the Presidential chair in France has terminated in the election of Prince Louis Napoleon, by an immense majority. The communication from our correspondent, in which he traces up this result to its probable causes, will be read with interest, as well as the comments of the British press. The Prince will probably be proclaimed to-day. The result of the election is curious and unexpected. All is congratulation in Paris. The funds improve. Public confidence re-appears. Credit begins to resume its sway—and no less than 405 members of the National Assembly have been to inscribe their names at the residence of the new President of the Republic. His Ministry is understood to be already formed. It is to be presided over by M. Odillon Barrot. A committee of about fifteen members, chosen by Louis Napoleon, sits daily to assist and advise with him, and to deliberate upon the first measures which will be taken by the President. It is stated as probable that his inauguration will be signalized by a general amnesty, from which, however, the prisoners at Vincennes, who have yet to take their trial, will be excepted. We have reserved our comments upon the issue of this election, for a separate article.

In Austria and Prussia matters remain in much the same position. The only topic calling for special remark is the adoption of the 5th article of the German Constitution by the Central Constituent Assembly, securing liberty of worship to all Germans, and declaring that there is no State Church. We are not quite clear as to the interpretation of this noble article by those whom it will specially affect—but whether it comes up to, or falls short of, our idea of perfect religious freedom, one thing is certain, that it will operate powerfully in favour of truth and religion, and that Christianity will not be degraded into the tool of selfish statesmen. Politically and ecclesiastically these people have far outstripped us in the race for freedom.

The Pope is still in a most inconvenient fix. An exile from the "Holy City" at Gaeta, he can scarcely be said to be free even there. Ferdinand of Naples seems inclined to play towards him the part of supervisor. He has stopped all intercourse between the Pope and his subjects, by arresting the further progress of the Roman deputation at the Neapolitan frontier. The breach, consequently, cannot be healed. Meanwhile, Rome is tranquil, scarcely appearing to regret the absence of the Sovereign Pontiff. Some popular indignation was recently stirred up—not on the Pope's behalf—but by the appearance of the French fleet off Civita Vecchia. Italy repudiates French intervention—and she is unquestionably right. To what issue matters may proceed, it will be vain to conjecture. One can scarcely hope for the final establishment of Italy as a separate and independent kingdom—but the flight of the Holy Father from Rome has opened a new prospect to the Italians, and the return of despotism can scarcely be anticipated.

The overland mail brings intelligence from India. It is not, however, of a decisive character. Affairs in the Punjaub remain much as they did. No movement of importance has been made on either side—an augury of evil for the insurrection. When revolts cease to go forward, they are on the point of destruction. Delay in such case is death—inaction is defeat.

FRANCE—THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

THE crisis is over. Looked forward to with a vague feeling of misgiving and dread by all who value domestic tranquillity, it has passed by with all the peacefulness of a summer's breeze. The result has taken everybody by surprise—not, indeed, as to the man elected, but as to the astounding majority which has placed him in the Presidential chair, and the quietude with which the transference of supreme magisterial power in France has been effected. Considerably upwards of five millions of votes have been recorded for Louis Napoleon. Paris is tranquil. The public mind is re-assured. The funds have risen. Credit resumes a higher position than ever it has done since the revolution of February. Business begins to look hopeful—and society appears to have been relieved of a heavy burden. So utterly beside the mark have been the predictions of political seers, who anticipated for France a winter of civil conflict, that the probabilities are in favour of France enjoying "a merry Christmas and a happy new year."

Speculation on the consequences of this election would be felt by all to be unsafe and mis-timed. Indeed, France seems to take delight in mocking the most sagacious of vaticinations—and to answer to all future likelihoods much as the weather corresponds with Moore's Almanack, by invariably presenting a fact in exact opposition to all previous expectations of it. What if Louis Napoleon, universally reputed to be shallow and nearly imbecile, should head an administration of unusual wisdom and vigour? What if that name which has so long been the symbol of war and conquest, should become associated with a peaceful development of national resources and free institutions? What if the "pretender" to a throne should turn out a true citizen of the Republic, and instead of leading the French people back to monarchy, should teach them to appreciate the value of self-government? The signs, it is true, do not point to any such consummation—but the experience of the past ten months has done much to destroy our reliance upon outward signs, where France is concerned. Nor are we sure that in a constitutional President, a mind much in advance of public opinion, or an imperious will which can make all other wills bend to itself, are qualifications best adapted to secure peace and progress. Time will show.

Louis Napoleon's triumph is unquestionably the triumph of a name. Personally he was less known than hundreds of the statesmen by whom he is surrounded. His deeds have not been of a character to dazzle a people passionately fond of glory. His resources for conducting an electioneering contest could not have been vast—and yet five-sixths of his fellow-citizens who have exercised the franchise on this occasion, have recorded their votes for him. The shade of his uncle was his best canvasser. The name, then, implies something to which France spontaneously responds. What is it? Setting aside the convenience it offered to intriguers, Legitimist, Orleanist, and Socialist, as a word to conjure with, it is quite evident that the bulk of the French citizens have seen something in the name sufficiently potent to solicit their sympathies, if not to fix their confidence. What, then, is the true secret of that mysterious charm? Is it war? or monarchy? or self-love? or national glory? or bustling times? or a mixture of all? We believe it is impossible to say. Napoleon Buonaparte is a name associated in the minds of most Frenchmen with that external splendour which most dazzles the theatrical taste of the nation. And, peradventure, this is all. The five million votes may perhaps be interpreted as an all but unanimous shout of sentimental rapture at the elevation of a shining and brilliant memorial of the past. The election, probably, scarcely had a definite aspect towards the future. All this, if it be true, reveals, it may be said, a very low condition of mental and moral culture. Perhaps so—perhaps we imagine, and correctly too, that we as a people should have acted in similar circumstances, under higher motives, and with a graver wisdom. But then, people must be taken for what they are, not for what they might be. And it is curious enough that whilst our politicians, judging by superficial symptoms only, are alarmed at the near prospect of our population being the most ignorant in civilized Europe, France, which has enjoyed so long a system of national education, should exhibit, in all great public movements, so decided an inferiority in those qualifications which characterise an advanced state of manhood.

Leaving, however, undiscussed and undecided the wisdom or the folly of the French people's choice, it is quite clear that the choice is *their's*. About this there can be no mistake. Prince Louis Napoleon in the Presidential chair, is the real representative of *a nation's will*. And this we take to be the perfection of the representative system. The highest eulogium which can be pronounced upon it, is, that it secures government in unison with the mind of the people—self-government, rulers, laws, and institutions, which are the body of which public opinion is the vital and vitalising spirit. As the character of the people improves, every political expression of it will improve also. Let the worth or worthlessness that is in society find an accurate representation—of course, it must be expected to reflect its follies and imperfections as fully as its virtues.

Experience has proved, that governments attempting aught beyond this ensure injustice in their working, and failure in their result. It belongs not to them, it lies not within their province, to improve society, but to give utterance and effect to its will, such as it is. We know of but one power sufficiently potent to elevate the standard of a nation's morals, and that power is not secular but religious. Law may prevent the evil of man's nature from working out all its deadly effects, but Christianity only can make that nature better than

it is. Sceptics may sneer as they will, but we are curious to know what sort of work they would have made of this world of ours, if Christianity had not been abroad before them. Men may attempt to find a substitute for what is so little beholden to their wisdom—and, with a view of indirectly puffing their own *nostrum*, may treat the great agent of social amelioration and progress with disdain—but when they have exhausted their bitter scorn, perhaps they will condescend to show us by what process they propose to grapple with human nature, and make it bend to their enlightened designs; and will inform us, not what *ought* to be, but what *shall* be. We must be excused for believing that, hitherto, there has been but one agent able to "bell the cat"—that systems of philosophy and modes of government may unquestionably point out wherein society *may* be improved, but that Christianity alone has ever *gone about it* with success. Let but the political institutions or rulers of a people fairly represent them—more than this the most enlightened minds will not require of them. All else which is necessary to their well-being and progression must be effected by other agencies—and if these agencies are allowed fair play, political institutions are no further responsible for the results.

We have indulged in the foregoing observations with a view to anticipate the objection which one may easily foresee will be drawn from the result of this election against universal suffrage. "See," it will be said, "the folly for which it is answerable." We reply—it is answerable for nothing of the sort. It never undertook to make a wise people—but fairly to represent the average of wisdom and worth which a nation contains. It seems likely enough that if the contest had been carried on by other weapons, the result would have been the same. Meanwhile, such work as universal suffrage could do, it has done admirably. Power has been transferred, in conformity with the national will, from one set of rulers to another—from those in possession to those in expectancy. And this great change has been effected as quietly as if no consequences of the slightest moment were staked upon it. The first President of a great Republic, born but yesterday of a violent revolution, is chosen without disturbance—without a breach of the peace. Who can over-estimate the moral of this transaction? Who can calculate the influence it will exert upon the character and habits of the French people? To settle differences by votes instead of muskets will gradually become amongst them a fixed law of action. Henceforth, patriotism will seek, not to overbear, but to instruct the people—and education, rather than force of arms, will become the recognised instrument of political triumph. A few more exemplifications of universal suffrage on the continent will suggest comparisons inconvenient to the abettors of our own restricted system—and an enfranchised people will come to be regarded as a better guarantee for peace and order, than the best organized police, or the largest standing army.

MR. COBDEN ON STATE EDUCATION.

We have a very high respect for Mr. Cobden. Within his own walk he is without a rival. On all questions of political economy he is an authority. For organizing a political movement he has both skill and experience. His mind is an honest one—not very far-reaching, perhaps, but clear-sighted within its appropriate limits—and as he thinks he speaks—without artifice, without circumlocution, and without any overweening pretence to philosophical profundity. He is deservedly a favourite with the middle classes, for he truly represents them—and the modesty with which he bears his honours commends him to the good-will of all.

Mr. Cobden lately delivered his sentiments on the subject of National Education, at a monthly meeting of the Lancashire School Association. His speech may be regarded as the great Free-trader's manifesto on this much agitated question. We cannot just now analyze it with all the precision which such a speech on such a topic may seem to deserve. But we are bold to say, after having read it with great attention, that there is nothing whatever in it, save the fact of its having come from Mr. Cobden, which the friends of State Education can refer to with just pride. The old, the very old, and threadbare arguments are reproduced in Richard Cobden's vigorous style—and that is literally all. A new thought, or a fresh suggestion, we have hunted for in vain.

Mr. Cobden declares that "all his experience in this country, from the time that he had tried to co-operate with others in Manchester to carry out popular education by voluntary means (which met with a ridiculous failure) had convinced him that it was impossible to have the people educated so as to deserve the name of education, unless it were through the powers of the State." Now, Mr. Cobden's range of experience may be a wide one, but we think we are entitled to ask of what number, variety, and breadth are the facts from which he has inferred this conclusion? Does he mean that in Manchester, and elsewhere the demand for education has far exceeded the supply? that such school-rooms as have been erected have been overcrowded, or such masters as voluntaryism has supplied have been overworked? Is he sure that the provision of schools and school apparatus by parochial taxation, and under parochial control, would greatly increase the *number* of scholars, or, after the novelty had worn away, would furnish them with a far *superior* education? Does Mr. Cobden attribute neglect of education among the poor solely to the deficiency of means within their reach? Is he sure that his experience at Manchester is decisive of so large a question? When he speaks of "ridiculous failure," what does he mean? That voluntary benevolence had not overtaken in a year or two, the evil produced by previous centuries of neglect? or that the rate of population has gained upon the educational means of the city? or that the average of mental culture is becoming decidedly lower as time rolls on? or that the energies of voluntaryism are being relaxed? Has Mr. Cobden studied this question? Has he gone into its statistics or pondered its philosophy? If so, he can give us a better reason for his conviction than "all his experience"—for no man can more fully appreciate the worth of figures, or more lucidly state a principle, than he.

But this is not all. After reminding objectors to a merely secular education, "that there was a larger pecuniary provision made for the *religious instruction* of the people of England than in any other country"—a fact the results of which, after three centuries of trial, might have suggested some mistrust of a State organization of educational means—he goes on to say, that "he trembled for the future of this country, if we did not adopt a system of national education for the rising generation. We had hitherto stood our ground in the competition with other countries, partly owing to the characteristics of the people; for the English were, by a sort of instinct" [we suggest whether social education has not more to do with English character than instinct], "a self-governing and orderly people: habits of self-organization seemed indigenous among them. But if we did not adopt some system of education, some provision of State education, the next generation of our countrymen were, he feared, likely to be the most ignorant population of any civilized community on the face of the earth; for it was evident that there was a rapid progress making abroad in the education of the people." So politicians are continually telling us—but intelligent travellers like Laing, and gentlemen long resident on the continent like William Howitt, do not corroborate their assertions. The author of "France—its Departments, &c.," draws but a sorry picture of what State education has done for that country—and judging by all the great criteria of popular intelligence, our people will bear comparison with any, save, perhaps, the inhabitants of the United States. From degrading and absurd superstitions they are as free as any continental people. They have as much independence of mind and character, as much truthfulness, as little ferocity, and as full a capacity for appreciating the merits of any great questions argued in their presence, as any other. Had Mr. Cobden this opinion of their relative inferiority when he submitted to them, in the rural districts too, with only a single defeat, the question of Free-trade? Does he really rely upon a State provision of instructional apparatus, for putting our ignorant population abreast in intelligence with those of France, Austria, and Prussia? It really humbles us to be put upon drawing comparisons—but we do say that in all the practical results of the educational process, our countrymen are not beneath, but above, the continental standard.

Of course, we are not now about to repeat the arguments on which we have based our conclusions on this subject. We have given them to our readers in more than one form. Those arguments may be worthless—but if so, they will be easily disproved. At present, we have not yet seen them so much as fairly grappled with—for the most part they remain altogether unnoticed. There is the less occasion, therefore, for wearying our readers by any reiteration of them. But Mr. Cobden's name will give a wide currency to observations which we regard as both crude and mischievous—and we have, consequently, felt compelled, however reluctantly, to intimate that on such a question he is by no means a trustworthy authority; and that the triteness of his remarks lays him under suspicion as having never looked beneath the surface of the subject.

MORE SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL.

In the course of our journeyings several years ago we were drawn from the route which we had previously marked out for ourselves, by hearing that one of the most extensive quarries of granite in the country, which was well worth a visit, lay within a short distance of the road we were travelling. We visited it, and can well remember the emotions of surprise and pleasure which were excited by the view of the frowning rocks, and the dark caverns which chiefly made up the scene. The quarry was in full work, and we stopped a short time to witness the operations that were going on. Presently our attention was attracted by the crowding of several of the workmen to a spot on the ground above, where a crane was being employed to draw up a huge mass of stone from the bed beneath. It was an immense block, and the machinery not being in the most perfect order, it required the applicaiton of an unusual degree of strength to lift it. Two or three times the attempt failed, and as often "more hands" were called to the work. By-and-bye the mass moved; the excitement of partial success stimulated to increased exertion; notch by notch was gradually won, and at length the unwieldy thing was fairly landed upon the ground, and the men rested from their labour, and looked almost proudly upon the object before them. They had won a victory over it, at the cost, it was true, of considerable trouble and expense of strength, but we dare aver that no man regretted the portion of the labour which he had borne and the assistance he had rendered, but rather, if questioned, would have confessed to something of a feeling of pride that he had lent a helping hand to the work.

We have often-since been reminded of the quarry scene. Why is it, we take leave to inquire, that the agencies which are at present being employed in the work of social and political reform are comparatively so inoperative upon those whom it is sought to influence? That they are so inoperative most persons will admit; we grant a certain degree of success attends them, but is it at all commensurate with the general expectation, or satisfactory to any? The obdurate and selfish nature of the material which has to be wrought upon; the indiscretion and want of earnestness in many to whom the direction of affairs has been committed, have been alleged — and at times, and to some extent, correctly—as causes of the comparative failure; but, to our thinking, the commonest cause of all is that which still oftenest excites caustic observations from enemies—the want of personal activity in "the multitudes," who say their heart and soul is in the work, but seldom give us proof of it.

Softly, now, let us ask of each of our readers, Is there no aggressive movement for reform in Church, State, or in society, from which *you* now stand aloof, which might be advanced by your co-operation? Who complains that he is defrauded of his rights by those whose office it is to protect him in the enjoyment of them—that he is saddled with burdens laid on for others' benefit—that he is the victim of unjust exactions? What do you *do* to recover your rights, and influence your legislators in favour of just government? One may cry aloud for a life-time because of all the evil that is in the land; but is *it* a thing to fly off like a scared crow, that takes to its wings at the mere sound of a voice? Do diseases depart at the peremptory bidding of a physician? Are stones lifted by a command, or are we all Aladdins at raising temples? The plain truth is, that if reforms in government or society are to be carried, there is a work to be done, and a tough battle to be fought. We have not a mere inert mass to contend with; strong prejudices and powerful interests and passions are arrayed against us. To those who are opposed to us, the issue of the struggle is regarded as equivalent to the question of existence or non-existence; to us it is more; it is a struggle in behalf of right and principle—of truth, justice, and humanity; and if we wish for a sure and speedy success, we must work, and that earnestly. We do not entertain a doubt of ultimate success; sooner or later it must come; but we believe that it rests greatly with men themselves how long that triumph shall be deferred. Hundreds, afraid, perhaps, of the smoke and dust that may be raised, or modestly thinking that their single assistance would be of no avail, stand altogether away from taking any part in the movements that are going on. We would not speak harshly of them, nor have we the prerogative to judge their motives; but we begrudge them not their ease. If one thing brings with it more reward than another, it is work for righteousness' sake: but anticipating the time when those rights and principles for which we now contend shall have gained a complete mastery over opposing interests, we can conceive of no more humiliating feeling than that which would be excited within our own breasts were it all to have been done for instead of by us. To have been put into possession of long deferred liberties through the exertions of others, whilst we had stood ingloriously by when they were doing earnest work in our behalf, would, if aught could, arouse every sense of self-reproach and shame. We think we could scarcely have the assurance to accept the rights which had thus been obtained; we are certain we should be unworthy to possess them. "If any man will not work, neither let him eat." Does not the principle commend itself to every man's conscience? Up, then! would you "lend a helping hand" in season—your shoulder to the wheel! Work! We see in the distance of time a glorious era approaching. Right must conquer; truth must prevail. Who will regret that it was accomplished with his

agency? Who will be proud that he bore no part in the struggle—that he saw his rights assailed, and great and honest principles attacked, and lifted not so much as his voice in their defence?

OFFICIAL PATRONAGE—ITS EVILS AND REMEDY.

(*From a Correspondent.*)

THAT it is only by becoming personally acquainted with the minute details of the working of a system we can possibly arrive at a correct conclusion as to its effects, or acquire the knowledge to correct its defects, must be admitted by all, whether the system under probation be mechanical, philosophical, natural, social, or political; and yet, strange enough, ready as we are at all times to expose the vast defects in our political system—defects that have grown up side by side with the institution itself (and are therefore formidable to eradicate), we permit the minute details, equally important in their consequences, to escape with a mere passing remark? That this ought not to be so, a glance at the subject under consideration will prove. At first sight, it might be passed over as one of the defects which would be remedied, as a matter of course, on something else being remedied. But may it not be remedied in itself, without awaiting the downfal of any other portion of the arch of monopoly? and would not its downfal materially damage the existing structure? These are questions worthy of consideration. The grand principle of practice in all democratic institutions is, government by the people for the people; or the retaining in the hands of the people as large an amount of government as possible, by the direct appointment of all those necessary to perform the function of control and government. In the thirty republics of America, most, if not all, the officers either of the executive or judicial branch of government are appointed by the people; as, for instance, governors of state—justices of the peace—all the judges—prosecuting attorneys—sheriffs, coroners, &c. But in England, the system of class rule has obtained so great a hold, that no offices in Government are at the disposal of the people; and all appointments (save those of Ministers, and special exceptions) are for life.

Some idea of the extent of this patronage may be formed by a perusal of the list of offices here enumerated:—Treasury, Privy Council Office, Secretary of State for the Home Department, ditto for Foreign Affairs, ditto for Colonial Affairs, Chief Secretary for Ireland, India Board, Alien Office, State Paper Office, Commander-in-Chief, Adjutant-General, ditto for Ireland, War Office, Judge-Advocate General, Paymaster-General, Ordnance, Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals, Admiralty, Naval Victualling Yards, Dockyards, Customs and Excise, Stamps and Taxes, Exchequer Bill Office, Paymaster of Civil Services, and ditto for Ireland, National Debt Office, Woods and Forests, Registrar-General, Board of Works, &c., Commissions in Army and Navy, Clerkships, Consular and Ambassadorial appointments, Judicial appointments, &c., Queen's Household, and a vast number of petty but expensive establishments. The heads of these offices are either the actual members of the Cabinet, or their most powerful supporters, as Ministers not in the Cabinet, drawing in with them a large number of dependents, courtiers, hangers-on, adventurers, &c. The place-holders may therefore be divided into Ministers, and their influential supporters, family dependents, including sons, sons-in-law, brothers and nephews, hangers-on, including bribed electors; the Ministers and others being members of the aristocracy.

The whole of this enormous patronage falls to the share of the aristocratic connexions or immediate political adherents of ministers, including a large number of members of Parliament, to the almost total exclusion of the middle and working classes, who, as the largest contributors to the national income, ought to be the most numerous *employés*—political partizanship, aristocratic birth, support of their candidates at the hustings, being the only qualifications for place, the sacrifice of public interest in every possible manner being as nothing to the pocket interest of a Whig family party, or a Tory cabal. Merit or talent, as a recommendation to office, is an idea too preposterous to cause a moment's consideration; and the manner in which these scions are educated, in conjunction with the means by which place is obtained, causes them to act towards the public in the most haughty and offensive manner, leading them at once to forget their relative position as our servants. The questions any ordinary tradesman, professional man, or merchant, would put to a candidate for employment, as to abilities, proficiency, &c., are answered by a reference to the name of the patron, and considerations as to his influence, deciding the questions. And if this insufficiency pervades the higher offices, such as the Colonial Office in its own chiefs, the Post Office, governorships of colonies, (witness Lord Torrington as Governor of Ceylon,) or in the appointment of a Master of the Buckhounds to the Vice-Presidentship of the Board of Trade, what amount of gross incompetency and inefficiency may be supposed to exist in the lower departments of the State. Some idea on this head may be formed by the number of dog-carts, tandems, and such like, to be seen at the doors of the various offices about Whitehall and Westminster on a fine morning. This abuse of patronage extends also to the *number of employés*, dozens of whom may be seen at every hour, from ten to four, who have nothing to occupy their attention but the reading of newspapers, conversing on ballet-girls, operas, quizzing the exterior of their official chief, or in the very official attitude delineated in *Punch*, under the head of "Our National Workshops." Place is also the price paid to M.P.'s for sacrificing the interests of a nation at the nod of a Minister. The majority of the supporters of a Government being place-hunters, armed almost by their constituents with omnipotent power, they sacrifice their own honour, national honour, national interest, and prefer being blindly led by a Minister, and receiving the traitor's price, to acting as honest men, and surrendering the trust reposed in them without a slur on their fame—"men," as Grattan truly says, "without ambition, without honour; who come from their little contemptible offices to vote for a bribe, and lick the hand that feeds, and worship the patron (traitor) who bribes them." The demoralization rests not, however, here. Members, in their turn, offer the same bait to needy electors, holding out false hopes to parents of future happiness and prosperity to their child or children; working upon their fears (if even independent of a landlord's control); directly bribing and corrupting, and so securing their tenure of office—usurping, on the one hand, the whole patronage of Government, and supplying the offices with grossly incompetent, insolent, overbearing persons, of the genus "gents."

The remedy for all this is to be found only in the exercise of this power by the people—in the first place, by prohibiting any place-holder occupying a seat in the House of Commons, and by compelling the attendance of Ministers to give explanations; secondly, by the election by the people of all heads of departments receiving salaries above £500 per annum, where that department is local; thirdly, in the appointment of all other officials by the direct vote of the House of Commons, thereby making such appointments open to the influence of a "great, authoritative, and imperative public voice;" fourthly, by limiting all such appointments to a specified time, the maximum period being seven years. In the second we would include all *judges*, justices of the peace, sheriffs, governors of prisons, coroners, county officers, &c., but subject to the limitation as to length of service, and having certain qualifications (not property), for the office. We flatter ourselves that the people's servants would then become rather more attentive to the people's interests, and that such disgraceful exhibitions of party feeling interfering in the administration of justice, as may be cited in Judge Cresswell's summing up in the case of Reg. *v.* Tomlinson, in July last, the charge of Justice Wilde, on the trial of the Chartist prisoners at the Old Bailey, and the *quasi*-political harangues of all other judges upon such occasions, will never again occur. Such occurrences, it may well be conceived, are but the fruits of the present system of patronage, and cause our judicial system to be decried and laughed at by our more democratic transatlantic brethren.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN FRANCE.

(*From a Paris Correspondent.*)

This contest, whose result has been looked forward to with much intense anxiety, being now virtually decided, I have to offer a few remarks on the subject.

If the liberal cause has received a check by the rejection of General Cavaignac, it has not a little triumphed in the proof which the election affords of the safety and thorough practicability of universal suffrage in one of the most populous countries in Europe. No violence, turbulence, or riot marked the contest at the polling stations,—an effect mainly attributable to the votes having been taken by ballot, which has been in use in France since the first Revolution. If Sir Culling Eardley had no title of preference other than his earnest advocacy of the ballot, he would merit the seat vacant in the West Riding. By the aristocracy, Whig and Tory, it has ever been opposed on frivolous grounds, while the real reason of their hostility is kept out of sight,—namely, that it would destroy their proprietory influence at elections, and leave them only that moral influence which belongs to the inferior classes,—they know, in short, that the ballot would take the wind out of their sails to a nicety, and, by purifying elections, would lead to the reform of those countless abuses by which their order exists. No wonder, then, that this privileged order should hate the French Republic, and that their organs in the press should gloat with a savage joy over the errors and misgivings that have so far unhappily marked its infant progress.

The parties, whose temporary fusion has carried the election of Louis Napoleon, were formed of the most heterogeneous and even hostile elements. The most ancient is the Legitimist party—the smallest, the richest, and most respectable—possessed of a considerable portion of the landed property. This party has made little noise since the Revolution of 1830, but has discreetly kept itself in the shade. Having passed some years in the South and West of France, where it is strongest, truth compels me to say that, however little I sympathize with its political views as the relics of an age gone by, and never to return, I found the old *noblesse* the most moral, exemplary, and well-conducted of any class in the country. Their families had fearfully suffered by the first Revolution; they dreaded another, and seemed to live constantly as if on their good behaviour. Their wealth, and the small number of their children, made them so far independent of office and patronage; they had grown disused to it, and indolent; and passed their time betwixt their chateaux and hotels in the provincial towns, at a distance from the Court, looking after their properties, and diversifying their existence with field sports, and the intercourse of private life. Their detestation of Louis Philippe was general and intense, looking upon him as a usurper, who by his intrigues before the Revolution had undermined the throne of their legitimate Sovereign. They also perceived that in the late reactionary movement against the Republic, the party of Louis Philippe was first and foremost, and acting as it were ready to seize the prize of the Restoration as if possessed of a preferable title. To these considerations add the fact, almost avowed in the Assembly by Larochjaquelin, that the Duke of Bordeaux, who is without heirs, would not come forward to accept the Crown, unless at the nearly unanimous call of the nation—and it will be seen how lukewarm the Legitimist party were likely to be in the election struggle that has lately taken place. Many of their tenantry and dependents no doubt voted for Napoleon from different motives; but the higher and richer members of it were divided—some not voting at all, and others bestowing their suffrages on General Cavaignac, like M. Fitzjames, one of their leaders, whose late letter in the *Corsaire* produced a great sensation. Since 1789, titles have been at a great discount in France, and procure for their owners little or no consideration; so that the loss of them by the Legitimist nobility produced among them little discontent.

The Orleanist party went for much in the late election, and indeed in all the troubles and commotions that have agitated the Republic from its beginning. Seventeen years of a reign, in which corruption may be said to have been sown broad-cast, could not fail to produce its fruits. So many ousted and expectant placemen, so many families living, or calculating upon the favours of the State, furnished so many hot-beds or nurseries of discontent and disaffection;—malcontents that did not dare to show themselves at the outset of the Republic, but who, in the sequel, secretly leagued themselves with the disappointed and misguided among the working classes. It was by this party that the journals most violently opposed to the new government were sustained and worked; it was by it that the rising in June was fomented. Some of the agents in these Machiavelian doings are known; one of them, a French lady of rank, married to an English officer, who lodged last summer in the hotel where I live—a person of great talent, tact, and activity, and who, when in England, is a frequent visitor of the ex-Royal family, was one of the most prominent of these mischief-workers. It was by this agent that the *Presse*, the *Lampion*, *Père Duchene*, and other incendiary journals, were supplied, if not with money, at least with some of their most telling articles; she foretold the barricades a week before they appeared, watched their progress with a feverish anxiety, went to console Girardin in prison, and kept up a constant correspondence with her party in England. Women of a sanguine temperament, and confident of success, are bad keepers of secrets, and are apt to forget that onlookers have eyes, ears, and memories.

Revolutions, it has been said, severely test the honesty of public men, but some never had any to test and among the number is M. Thiers. No wonder that Louis Philippe, a shrewd discerner of character, should never have had confidence in him, and only took him as a *pis aller*. At one time I inclined to believe that he was harshly and illiberally judged by the British press; I now think that all its strictures were just to the letter, and that, although possessed of astonishing talent, he is a man *sans principes*, *sans honte*, *et sans cœur*. With all that, I regret to say, that, because he is necessary to them, he is the idol of the Orleanist party at present. When he took office under Cavaignac, M. Dufaure excited the expectations of this party, but no sooner did he show his steady attachment to the existing order of things, than they began to revile him, calling him, a man "*sans caractère*," a weak man, which, in their language, meant that he was not a person to play the traitor, and betray the trust reposed in him, to their advantage. The only truly respectable man of the party is M. H. Passy, once Minister of Finance, and better known in England as an able writer on political

economy than as a politician. I repeat, that in the late electoral movement the Orleanists were the leaders or chiefs—the lion, that when the hunt was over, hoped to seize on the carcase of the quarry, and to leave the offals to the jackals that swelled the pack.

That Napoleon would have a numerous body of supporters among the inhabitants of the country districts, and especially among the peasant proprietors, was long foreseen. They are the most ignorant portion of the population; and as ignorance requires an idol, and delights in hero-worship, the *clarum et venerabile nomen* of the Emperor was naturally chosen. But this was not all. Another cause alienated them from the Republican Government—namely, the imposition of forty-five centimes, which increased their existing taxes by one-half. The French peasantry are the most penurious, sordid set alive; and whatever touches their pockets becomes odious to them. "*Avarus agricola*," said Virgil of the Roman husbandmen; and the epithet is as strongly characteristic of the French. Towards counteracting this argument, drawn from the breeches pocket, all the influence of the clergy, exerted in favour of Cavaignac, was powerless: the altar was beaten to sticks by Mammon.

The pacific policy first proclaimed by Lamartine, and followed out by Cavaignac—however just, wise, and necessary it may be—has not found general favour among the French. The military spirit is still strong in the country, and is fostered, not only by the love of glory, but by considerations of individual interest. In no country, perhaps, is there found so numerous an educated class as in France; persons who have received a scholastic education are found, not only in the learned professions, but behind the counter, in factories, as travelling bagmen, behind the plough, in short, everywhere, and in all the grades of society. The difficulty of establishing young men is very great, and the army is looked upon as one of the readiest means. In it there is no purchasing of commissions, everything goes on by fixed rules; and where every one, with education and good conduct, has a chance of rising, and obtaining a grade which becomes a provision for life. I observe that the students at the Military College of St. Cyr voted almost to a man in favour of Napoleon; and when the votes of the different regiments are collected, I have no doubt of his having an immense majority of them: but the same military feeling pervades all classes, and must have immensely contributed to swell the numbers against Cavaignac.

The Socialists, from the Fourierists down to the Proudhonists, who are very numerous in the towns, were at first set down as supporters of Ledru Rollin, the candidate of the Mountain; but these sects latterly ranged themselves under the banner of Napoleon. From Cavaignac they had nothing to expect in the furtherance of their wild crotchets—from his rival they might obtain something; and many of them voted for him in the belief that out of his election would soon spring another revolution, which might favour their projects. Many had been engaged in the Barricades; others had sympathized with the insurgents, whose discomfiture and punishment by the courts martial excited their hostility to Cavaignac to the most rancorous degree.

It is obvious that under a system which counts some ten millions of voters, and worked by ballot, the action of the Government on the electors was almost null.

The depressed state of trade and industry, and the misery among the lower and many of the middle classes, consequent on the shock created by the Revolution, were eminently favourable to Napoleon. The impatience of the French, as is observed by De Corminin, is stronger than that of any other people, and under its influence they frequently rush blindly to the most extravagant and opposite extremes.

The foregoing appear to me to be the principal causes that went to decide the election in favour of Napoleon. The effects of it on the stability of the Republic remain to be seen. That he is a man of very ordinary powers, vain, ambitious, and nurtured in the idea of his being the heir of the imperial throne, is admitted even by his own partisans. Still there are grounds to hope and presume that he will keep within the bounds of the Constitution, and not attempt an usurpation. His constitutional powers are limited, well defined, and fenced round with penalties. The Assembly embodies the real power of the Government, and to its behests the President and his Ministers must bow. He knows, besides, that his own party is small; that his vast majority is a rope of sand; that he was chosen, not for his merits, but his demerits; and that an act of usurpation, while it would lose him the Presidency, would not raise him to the throne. To a man needy, and greatly in debt, the official salary, to say nothing of a vast patronage, is a consideration not to be lightly hazarded. The chief danger lies in his not having sense enough to mistrust the counsels of the Orleanist party that surround him. *Nous verrons*. In the meantime, I hope the best for the Republic, and confidently believe that it will triumph over all the dangers that beset it, and will outlive the endurance of the British aristocracy. W.

Paris, 16th December, 1848,

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

THE FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

This topic is variously handled by the leading journals. The *Times* and the *Morning Chronicle* regard the election of Louis Napoleon as a demonstration against the Republic, and "as a protest in the name of the nation against the errors, the acts of violence, and the crimes of the party whom the Revolution of February so unexpectedly pitched into power." The *Daily News*, on the other hand, says:—

To consider such an election as an homage to monarchy, or an assertion of hereditary right, were indeed a preposterous absurdity. The characteristic of the Buonapartes is that of being throne-destroyers, of being the establishers of equality, the champions of popular interests. Napoleon concentrated in himself the great principles of the revolution, which he strengthened, enforced, and extended, through dictatorial and military means, indeed, but towards the great ends of progress. Wherever his foot trod, there feudalism and aristocracy withered. As to hereditary right, we do not think that it has with any party the narrow meaning which was of old attached to it, and which only English retrogrades would resuscitate. Hereditary right now means rather the handing down of the particular ideas and interests bound up with particular dynasties, than the descent of any mysterious or sacrosanct attributes latent in the blood. Hereditary right with the legitimist means absolutism in the monarch, ascendency in the aristocracy, authority in the priesthood. Hereditary right with the Orleanist means a government by the intelligent few, supported by the civic and industrious classes; and an excellent principle it is when not narrowed or perverted. Hereditary right, as conveyed from one Buonaparte to another, means the great popular and revolutionary championship handed down, with all those new and modern interests attached to it, which French constitutional governments having more stifled than advanced, the people are anxious to see developed by a semi-dictatorship in their especial interests.

The discriminating *Spectator* thus notices one question involved in the election:—

"Universal suffrage" is taunted with the bathos implied in the election: but not justly. As far as the mere working of universal suffrage goes, it is to be observed that a vast movement has been effected with scarcely any interruption to quiet—with less turmoil than commonly marks a general election in our own well-regulated country. And the fact that Louis Napoleon is the unquestionable choice of the people at large, does furnish a powerful guarantee for order; since it tends to cut off hopes of present rivalry, and testifies for him a very broad sanction. But the electors have not made an original selection. It is to be remembered that millions of men spread over the face of a vast territory cannot take the initiative—it is not in the nature of things that they should be able to do so. Universal suffrage could not spontaneously point out its own President, but could only make its selection from a list offered to it. Now let us understand what really was done. The choice lay between four candidates; for Lamartine, hedging between the hopes of success and the fears of failure, did not fairly throw himself into the contest,—a sort of self-seeking coyness, which always repels great public bodies, as they naturally feel that, if a man does not think it worth while to risk his own credit, he cannot be worth election. Ledru Rollin stood on his ambition as a "man of the people": but it was not a time for trifling. To accept Raspail would have been to accept the "République Democratique et Sociale," for which the electors of France are evidently unprepared; and with that institution it would have been to accept also a President of very questionable eligibility: universal suffrage has the credit of placing its veto on the pretensions of M. Raspail. To accept Cavaignac would have been to vote for the continuance of the existing régime; which is negatived. If Louis Napoleon is not a man to be the favourite of the nation, he has at least some negative advantages: he is not yet committed to mischievous courses; he seems to be in able guidance; his very neutrality of character favours the notion that he may be inclined towards a national policy, and may conciliate interests which are now in conflict. In a word he *may* make a better President than his enemies foresee.

Douglas Jerrold's Newspaper and the *Examiner* are each apprehensive of the result. The former says:—

This is the misfortune—this the besetting evil—of the elevation of Louis Napoleon to the Presidency. It undoes all that France, since February, has done. There is no longer a growing sense of security in republican institutions. The kingdom is again set up to be bid for by royalists. Commerce is paralysed — capital takes flight—whilst the private auction goes on—and who shall predict the measure or the limit of the misery, in the fulfilment of the "transaction?" Henceforth, ridicule is harmless in France. Boulogne laughs at a mountebank invader—laughs at him whilst she collars him; a few years past—and, with a vast majority of voices, she wills him to the Presidential chair. . . . Louis Napoleon is, doubtless, elected. We have a President. *When* may we expect the barricades?

The *Examiner* prophesies that Louis Napoleon will soon support a warlike policy:—

Notwithstanding all the fine words that Louis Napoleon has spoken about peace, and all the grandiloquence of M. Odillon Barrot about reducing the army, we may depend upon it that Louis Napoleon will soon exchange the olive-branch for the short-sword. He has the incarnation and concentration of all the military ambition and ideas of the empire by his side, in the person of M. Thiers. A very little reflection and observation will teach him, that the *baptême de sang* is the only sovereign ointment for a Buonaparte dynasty; and he will soon gratify the millions of peasants who voted for them by taking their sons for the conscription, and their harvest to feed campaigns. Jacques Bonhomme has got his bellyful of constitutional liberty and of republican freedom. He is anxious for something new; and something new he will have—whether in the shape of laurels or a licking, a short twelvemonth may decide.

Our contemporary concludes with a bold prediction:—

If Louis Napoleon turn out hereafter the good and skilful captain, which at present he is not, he may re-establish his dynasty; but on the 15th of December, 1848, and in the face of the million of Buonapartist voters, we would go far to venture a fair bet for the Prince de Joinville as a no-distant Regent, and the Count de Paris as the *paulo-post* future King of the French.

PRINCE LOUIS NAPOLEON'S HISTORY.

(From the *Standard of Freedom*.)

As the son of Louis, ex-King of Holland, and of Hortense Beauharnais, daughter of the Empress Joseph, he has become the head of the once Imperial family of Napoleon.

Prince Louis commenced his historical career at Rome, in 1831, at the age of 23, by taking part in a general insurrection of the people of Italy against the despotic power of the Pope. That revolt, however legitimate in its origin and object, was begun and conducted with such imprudence, want of energy and combination, that it produced nothing but the ruin of most of its leaders; and Louis Napoleon, after a feeble effort to become its hero, ignominiously fled the moment the enterprise became dangerous through the interposition of Austrian troops in behalf of the sovereign Pontiff.

In 1832 the Prince was residing as a refugee in Switzerland, where his intrigues, carried on in connexion with a number of Frenchmen disaffected to the Government of Louis Philippe, and indeed to all forms of settled administration, and his absurd pretensions as heir to the crown bequeathed by his uncle, drew upon him, and on the hospitable people who had sheltered and protected him, the indignation of France and the distrust of surrounding states.

His aspirations at this period, however, were not limited to France. In 1835 the young Queen, Donna Maria, of Portugal, became a widow by the death of the Duke of Leuchtenberg, a son of Prince Eugene Beauharnais, and, consequently, cousin of Louis Napoleon. The latter promptly became a candidate for the vacant matrimonial throne of his relative; thus proving that it was not France which claims his love for itself—as he had frequently asserted in speeches and letters intended for the eye and ear of the Parisian public—but that his heart was set upon royalty, upon the pomps and gauds, at least, of nominal sovereignty, come whence or how they might.

Rejected with scorn by the Portuguese Queen and Ministry, the Prince issued, on the 14th December, 1835, a bombastic bulletin, in imitation of those which Napoleon himself was accustomed to publish on the field of his victories, denying the rumour which his friends had circulated, that he was the accepted suitor of the heiress of the house of Braganza. "For several days past," he said, "it has been reported that I am about to depart for Portugal as a pretender to the hand of Queen Donna Maria. However flattering to me might be the supposition of a union with a young queen, at once beautiful and virtuous, the widow of a cousin who was dear to me, it is my duty to refute the rumour which has appeared. I owe it to myself even to add, that notwithstanding the lively interest which I take in the destinies of a people who have worked out their own freedom, I should refuse the throne of Portugal, even if it should happen that the eyes of the parties most interested in the event should be directed towards me."

The grapes of Lisbon having proved to be sour, the Prince directed his attention anew to "La Belle France," and on the 30th October, 1836, he made his memorable invasion of Strasbourg—an act of insanity for which he was consigned, not to a fortress as a dangerous political pretender, but to the custody of police as a lunatic whom it was advisable to remove from the sources of his excitement. Such, however, was the fear and despair of the heir of "Napoleon the Great" at this uncalculated result, that he readily—it is said voluntarily—gave his parole to remain in exile in the United States for ten years, on condition that, in the meanwhile, he might there enjoy the sweets of freedom.

Prince Louis's word, however, like his valour, was not trustworthy. In 1838 he returned, full of pretexts for his breach of faith, to Europe, and settled in Switzerland, where again he set at work all the instruments he could command to agitate France in favour of his obsolete claims to empire. Among the other acts of folly and self-will which marked his proceedings at this period, was the futile insurrection effected by M. Barbes, the origin of which was currently ascribed to Louis Napoleon, and never satisfactorily repudiated by him. These intrigues soon rendered it necessary for his personal safety once more to fly. He found then an asylum in England, but seems to have learnt no wisdom from past experience, nor to have forgotten or moderated any of his hankerings after the rank of a Cæsar, or the homage paid to the purple. In 1840 he embarked in a Thames steam-boat for Boulogne, with a number of drunken companions—adventurers like himself—threadbare in reputation, and consumptive in purse, and carrying with them a tame eagle with clipped claws and moulted pinions—a fit emblem of an expedition intended to subjugate France with the necromantic echo of the mere name of buried glory and greatness.

We need not pursue the Prince into his subsequent fretful imprisonment in the fortress of Ham, whence he contrived to escape to England in 1846; though even during his confinement his efforts to seduce partisans to his cause, as heir to the throne of France, were unceasing.

His after-residence in this country was comparatively unmarked; but it is nevertheless well known to many persons in London that his chief associates here were certain gentlemen and ladies

bearing aristocratic names, but of questionable character—speculators on the variations of stocks, gamblers, money hunters, diners-out, haunters of the saloons of second-rate fashion, and of the nameless resorts of vice and dissipation. He was unscrupulous in contracting obligations which were wholly beyond his means of repayment; and his most serious pursuit was the study of alchemy, by which he expected to arrive at the discovery of the philosopher's stone. So vigorously did he prosecute this exploded science, at a house which he had fitted up as a laboratory at Camberwell, and so firm was his faith in the charlatan empyric whom he employed to aid him in transmuting the baser metals into gold, that he is said to have actually appropriated his revenues in anticipation, and to have devoted the first milliard of his gains to the payment of the National Debt of France, in order to acquire thus an imperial throne by purchase!

Public Dinner to Mr. Buckingham. — The magistrates and principal inhabitants of Rothesay, in the Isle of Bute, joined with the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Society of that town in entertaining Mr. Buckingham at a public dinner, on Friday week, as a mark of their gratitude for the pleasure afforded them by his course of lectures, recently delivered there, and also as a testimony of their admiration for his public character, and sympathy with the many philanthropic objects to the promotion of which his long and varied life has been devoted. The entertainment was given at the Bute Arms Hotel, where a large party assembled. The Provost of Rothesay occupied the chair, supported by the magistrates and ministers of the town.

A Female Adult Night-school has been opened, in connexion with the People's College, at Nottingham. The classes meet three times a week. The school fee is 4d. per week. The average attendance during the winter months has been about forty-five. The subjects of instruction are the ordinary branches of an English education—reading, writing, and arithmetic, along with such portions of grammar and geography as justice to the three fundamental branches will permit.

Financial Reform.—On Thursday, an influential meeting was held in the Council Chamber, Paisley, for constituting an association there to co-operate with the Financial Reform Association of Liverpool, and to forward the objects of that association by the circulationof its publications. Officers were appointed to carry out the views of the meeting.

The Burglary near Birmingham.—The particulars of this robbery were reported in our last. On Thursday, the four men, who we then announced were under examination before the magistrates at Solehall, were fully committed for trial at Warwick Assizes. Their names were Edward Bunner, Samuel Bunner, J. H. Hill, and John Smith. They are part of a desperate gang, whose depredations have for some time been carried on on a most extensive scale in the district.

Temperance Society.—A meeting, under the patronage of the National Temperance Society, was held on Monday evening at Exeter-hall. Mr. Cassell having been called to the chair addressed himself to the statistical part of the question, showing that much might be saved in the way of police-rates and poor-rates, by the adoption of the temperance principles—principles which, he contended, would do more to elevate the people morally, socially, and even politically—judging from the impetus given to drunkenness at contested elections—than any amount of political agitation. Mr. Inwards proved, to the evident satisfaction of the meeting, which he addressed in a humorous strain, that teetotalism was faultless in principle and operation, and that its disciples were fatter, better, and healthier men than were or could be the votaries of Bacchus. Messrs. Hudson, Whittaker, and Smith, also dilated on the advantages of temperance, and the many evils that flowed to individuals and society generally from the use of intoxicating beverages, and thanks having been voted to the chair the meeting separated.

National Provident Institution.—The annual meeting of this Institution was held on Friday at the London Tavern, when the thirteenth report of its state and prospects was submitted to the members. The directors therein observed that during the past year 1,673 proposals for assurance had been submitted to the board, and of these 1,423 had been accepted, and policies thereon issued, the annual premiums on which amount to £24,475; 137 more had been accepted, but on these the policies had not yet been completed. The remaining 113 proposals the directors had considered it prudent to decline. The annual income is increased to £126,232, notwithstanding the reduction on premiums amounting to the sum of £10,716, allowed to those members who chose this mode of appropriating the profits. The total amount of bonuses assigned in 1847 to policies on which the original premiums continue to be paid is £37,834 4s., in addition to the sums assigned in 1842. The accounts to the 20th Nov. last have been duly audited; the balance of receipts over disbursements for the year is £72,855 19s. 3d., making the capital stock of the Institution at that date £440,028 15s. 3d., which is invested in real and Government securities. The sums paid for claims on policies of deceased members from the commencement of the Institution, including the bonuses assigned thereto, amount to £111,939 10s., of which £16,250 10s. has been paid within the last twelve months, and the sum of £7,749, not yet applied for, remains due on this account. The report having been adopted, the members proceeded to another [illegible] to elect officers, &c.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

THE POLL.

On Thursday morning, the poll for the West Riding of Yorkshire commenced in the twenty-six polling districts, into which the riding has been subdivided under the Reform Acts. Even in the most populous districts, it was conducted with the greatest order and regularity, and without any very marked manifestations of party feeling.—At Leeds, Mr. Denison took the lead on the poll, and kept it throughout the day. At Bradford, Sir Culling Eardley took the lead and kept it until eleven o'clock, when the parties were equal, each candidate having polled 839.

Wakefield, from a very early hour, presented a scene of bustle and anxiety. Being the returning town, both candidates had their central committees there; Mr. Denison at the Strafford Arms Hotel; Sir Culling Eardley at the Corn Exchange. Coaches were in waiting at the railway station to bring up the voters that might arrive by the early trains; and the polling, beginning at the usual time, proceeded for some hours very briskly. In the Wakefield district Mr. Denison soon shot ahead, and his committee published a return, dated a quarter past ten, by which it appeared that he had then a majority of 53; the numbers being—

For Mr. Denison	139
For Sir Culling Eardley	86

After this, the polling proceeded quietly and steadily, the town being enlivened by the occasional arrival of a group of voters from the neighbouring villages, usually preceded by a band, until twelve o'clock, when Mr. Denison's committee put forth a second return for the district, by which it appeared that both parties had polled pretty equally during the previous two hours, Sir Culling having gone down into a further minority of two during the time. The numbers then were—

For Mr. Denison	405
For Sir Culling Eardley	350

Up to this time the reform committee had made no return whatever; but now, having obtained returns from the surrounding districts, they published a return up to eleven o'clock, which gave Sir Culling Eardley a majority of 126. The numbers being—

For Sir Culling Eardley	1,601
For Mr. Denison	1,473

In the course of the next half-hour, however, Mr. Denison's committee received advices an hour later, which they speedily made known to the public, as giving to Mr. Denison over the whole riding a majority of no less than 521; the numbers being—

For Mr. Denison	2,243
For Sir Culling Eardley	1,722

This return bid fair to settle the question, and people were beginning to make up their minds to the result of Mr. Denison's return, when, at a quarter-past one o'clock, a burst of cheering from Sir Culling Eardley's committee room announced another oscillation in the scale; and a placard, announcing the state of the poll over the riding at one o'clock, gave Sir Culling once more a majority, a narrow one, indeed, only 31, but still a majority on the gross poll. The numbers, according to this return, were—

For Sir Culling Eardley	2,345
For Mr. Denison	2,314

Mr. Denison's committee put out no further return at this time, but at two o'clock they also published a genuine return of the poll over the riding at one, but with a very different result from the foregoing, their return giving Mr. Denison, instead of a minority of 31, a majority of 1,827, the gross numbers being—

For Mr. Denison	5,032
For Sir Culling Eardley	3,205

At the close of Thursday's pool, the statement made by Mr. Denison's committee was as follows:—

Mr. Denison	10,980
Sir Culling Eardley	8,191
Majority for Mr. Denison	2,789

The polling on Friday was kept up with much spirit on both sides, no less than 7,211 votes having been given altogether. The state of the poll at various periods during the day will be seen from the following statement;—

12 o'clock.		3 o'clock.	
Denison	11,068	Denison	13,329
Eardley	8,826	Eardley	9,472
Majority	2,242	Majority	3,857
2 o'clock.		**4 o'clock.**	
Denison	11,889	Denison	14,692
Eardley	9,174	Eardley	11,690
Majority	2,715	Majority	3,002

Notwithstanding the combined opposition of the Whig and Tory landed interest, Sir Culling Eardley polled nearly as many votes as Lord Morpeth did in 1837, although his lordship, on that occasion, stood higher on the poll than any liberal candidate has ever done, since then, in the West Riding.

A correspondent at Sheffield sends us the following:—"Thinking it may not be uninteresting to you, I hand you a detailed account of the two days' polling here:—

Thursday.	Eardley.	Denison.	Friday.	Eardley.	Denison.
10 o'clock	57	19	10 o'clock	731	690
11 „	310	244	11 „	805	714
12 „	413	446	12 „	842	766
1 „	499	542	1 „	875	793
2 „	582	594	2 „	916	820
3 „	656	626	3 „	972	845
4 „	720	671	4 „	998	865
Majority for Eardley, 49.			Majority for Eardley, 133.		

"From this statement (which is according to the returns of Eardley's committee) you will perceive there has been a desperately hard fight for the mastery. I am exceedingly gratified by the result, so far as Sheffield is concerned, inasmuch as it will teach the 'base Whigs,' who have been coalescing with the Tories, that we can do without them. Many of them have 'ratted' from the honourable ranks of Dissenters. Many of them were poor men formerly, but having 'got up in the world,' and having had municipal honours conferred upon them, or having acquired influence by other means, they have begun to look upon Dissenters as something beneath them—not so fashionable—have gone to 'church'—and, as a matter of course, are voting with the Tories. This election will do a great deal of good in Sheffield—it will teach the more timid Dissenters to place less confidence in those who have been wont to lead them by the nose, and to depend more on the less sentimental, but honest-hearted working and middle classes. Were Mr. Miall, Mr. Vincent, or Sir Culling to come forward at the next *borough* election, I have not the least doubt we could carry either of them in."

Extent of the Present Constituency.—The following table exhibits the extent of the constituency at present, and when compared with the numbers who have actually voted, shows that a large portion of the voters have stood aloof. Deducting, however, the duplicate entries, deaths, removals, &c., the actual number of the constituency may be taken at 32,500.

	Voters.		Voters.
Aberford	946	New Delph	828
Barnsley	1598	Otley	1102
Birstal	1504	Pateley Bridge	462
Bradford	3564	Pontefract	777
Dent	402	Ripon	566
Doncaster	1819	Rotherham	814
Gisburn	730	Selby	552
Halifax	2285	Settle	966
Hebden Bridge	891	Sheffield	2433
Holmfirth	731	Skipton	1038
Huddersfield	2034	Snaith	667
Keighley	1302	Wakefield	2569
Knaresborough	1357		
Leeds	3310	Total	35,280

From the *Leeds Mercury*.

On the register the Liberals had a majority of about 4,500; but the desertion of the Whig aristocracy and gentry has had the effect of converting the majority into a minority. Those gentlemen, therefore, have the merit, such as it is, of returning Mr. Beckett Denison for the West Riding, and inflicting a great defeat upon the Liberal party. In many cases they gave their active help—that is, their votes and money, together with all their influence over their tenants—in favour of the Tory candidate: in other cases, they maintained neutrality as to their votes, but, by published letters, or otherwise, gave their moral support to Mr. Denison.

* * * * *

When the polling came on, the friends of Mr. Denison spent very large sums of money in carriages and in expensive refreshments to the voters. In some polling places almost every inn was engaged, and tickets for breakfasts and dinners were previously distributed among the electors. We do not say whether this would clearly amount to a violation of the law. But we do know that the refreshments given by the Liberals were moderate and inexpensive indeed, compared with those given by the Tories. The cost of the election to the latter will probably be three or four times as much as to the Liberals.

The causes of the defeat of Sir Culling Eardley are, then, sufficiently manifest from the facts we have mentioned. They may be summed up as follows:—

1st. The coalition of the Whigs with the Tories.

2nd. The further division of the Liberals by the introduction of Mr. Roebuck.

3rd. The fact that Sir Culling was not a Yorkshireman, which gave a great advantage to his opponent.

4th. The prejudices so industriously propagated against Sir Culling.

5th. His illness, preventing him from completing his canvass, or appearing at the Nomination.

6th. The wealth of the united Tories and Whigs, and the large expenditure of money on legal agents, carriages, and treating.

When these several causes are considered, the number of electors who have polled for Sir Culling Eardley must be regarded as indeed surprising, as a very high testimony to his character and principles,—as a most triumphant reply to the allegations against him.

It seems not unlikely that 11,000 electors may give their votes to Sir Culling; and, if we do not much mistake, this will be felt, under all the disadvantages we have mentioned, as a moral victory both for the candidate and for the principles which he represents. It is an overwhelming proof that the Whigs have at this election deserted the great bulk of their party. The ridiculous pretence that certain interests or individuals have dictated to the party as to the choice of a candidate, is rendered glaringly absurd. Sir Culling Eardley was the candidate of the party, chosen by their delegates, approved at every meeting in the course of the canvass, ratified at the nomination, and finally sanctioned by from 10,000 to 11,000 electors at the poll. Against such facts as these, all the special pleadings of Whigs or Tories are as empty as moonshine. * * * * *

A glance at the detailed returns from the polling districts will show that the districts where Mr. Denison has had overwhelming majorities, are just those where almost the entire body of electors are under the influence and control of the landlords. There

are noble exceptions among the yeomanry, some of whom have exhibited an independence worthy of the highest praise. But the £50 tenants-at-will have voted with a unanimity perhaps never before known in favour of the Tory candidate. On the other hand, in the more populous parts of the Riding, where the electors are comparatively independent, there is a great majority for the Liberal candidate. Even in these districts landlord influence prevails to a considerable extent, as in the districts of Leeds, Wakefield, Huddersfield, Bradford, Sheffield, &c., where the towns are surrounded by tracts of country under the sway of the aristocracy. If the really independent part of the constituency could be separated from the dependent part, it would be found that the majority amongst the former for the popular candidate is as decided as among the latter for the Tory candidate.

No person can have been more averse to a separation of the Liberal party than ourselves. But now that the Whig landlords have so causelessly, offensively, and injuriously cast off their party, and delivered it over to the Tories, it will become the Liberals to strengthen themselves on the register in every way, so that they may not be at the mercy either of the aristocracy or of the Tories. We hope every Liberal who can afford to become a freeholder will qualify himself, by purchasing a freehold property before the 31st of January next, for helping to assert the independence of the Riding.

The war-cry of the Denison party on this occasion has been in substance that which was blurted out on the hustings at the nomination, namely, "No Chapel!" We have over and over again stated that the pretence on which this intolerant cry was founded was false. The object of the Liberals was to prevent the erection of a Roman Catholic Establishment in Ireland (which every man in the kingdom believes that the Government will attempt as soon as they dare), and, on a principle of plain and simple justice, to prevent the further extension of the endowment of any other religion by the State. Yet the cry against Dissent and Dissenters has been raised with a bitterness that reminds one of the records of a century or a century and a half ago. The spirit of the cavaliers after the restoration, and of the parsons and squires in Queen Anne's day, against the Nonconformists, is revived with little abatement. We should think that the result of the West Riding election cannot be very satisfactory to those who have put the matter on this issue. Eleven thousand votes for "the Chapel"—for so they will have it—must be gall and wormwood to those devout disciples of "Hear the Church!"

THE DECLARATION.

Monday having been appointed for the declaration of the poll, Wakefield was again the scene of great bustle and excitement. The friends of Sir Culling Eardley, the defeated candidate, procured it to be announced in the local newspapers of Saturday that the hon. baronet would be present, and his supporters were urged to give their attendance. The casting up of the poll-books occupied from an early hour in the morning to after twelve o'clock. Mr. Denison and his friends, forming a long procession, with flags, banners, and music, arrived at the hustings first. Mr. Denison, who was girt with a sword as a knight of the shire, and rode a white charger, was loudly cheered. Sir Culling Eardley was also loudly cheered by his friends on his arrival at the hustings.

The following is the official return of the poll:—

Polling Districts.	Denison.	Eardley.
Aberford	606	88
Barnsley	766	933
Birstal	458	715
Bradford	1364	1468
Dent	165	108
Doncaster	1046	309
Gisburn	428	139
Halifax	732	973
Hebden-bridge	204	458
Holmfirth	219	342
Huddersfield	713	920
Keighley	328	625
Knaresborough	892	151
Leeds	1354	1080
New Delph	264	413
Otley	384	407
Pateley-bridge	186	191
Pontefract	437	147
Ripon	383	67
Rotherham	347	235
Settle	526	183
Selby	376	66
Sheffield	859	975
Skipton	376	373
Snaith	432	25
Wakefield	956	824
Total ..	14,743	11,795
Majority for Mr. Denison	2,948	

Mr. Grey, at half-past twelve o'clock, announced that there had been polled for Mr. Denison 14,743 votes, for Sir Culling Eardley 11,795, and a majority for Mr. Denison of 2,948 votes [cheers]. He therefore declared Mr. Denison duly elected a knight of the shire for the county of York [renewed cheers]. He then read the indenture of the return; and

Mr. Denison, amidst loud cheers, came forward to address the electors. He said the West Riding had shown itself sound at heart; and the working classes had acted with admirable good temper, and had raised themselves in his estimation. His friend, Lord Wharncliffe, was pelted with stones in 1837, and in 1841 he was similarly treated; but on the present occasion he had not received a single insult [cheers]. The West Riding electors had declared that they would not support any man who would not pledge himself to maintain the connexion between the Church and the State [cheers]; and he warned his late opponent that, if he thought the 11,000 or 12,000 electors who polled for him were in favour of Voluntaryism rather than the State Church, he was most grossly deceived [cheers]. He could tell Sir C. Eardley that, if there had been any chance of the Conservatives being defeated, thousands who had stood aloof and neuter would have voted for him (Mr. Denison). He did not know whether Sir Culling would come to Yorkshire again; but if he did come upon the question of separation and anti-education, he would be most miserably defeated, as he had been egregiously deceived by those who brought him forward now [cheers, and cries of "Neddy Baines."] With respect to the education of poor children by the State, he should be a most able coadjutor of Mr. Cobden [applause]. That question was now settled, and he looked forward to a far better education of the working classes in future, and to the continued and increased selection of persons to the highest offices in the State from the lower classes [applause]. He had nothing to gain by the maintenance of a large army and navy, or of useless offices, and he would do all that appeared necessary to keep down the public expenditure, so far as was consistent with the power, the prosperity, and the independence of this great empire. After some further remarks, he concluded amidst much applause.

Sir C. Eardley, who still suffered from illness, then addressed the assemblage. He said he had been the subject of misrepresentation, though, he believed, not wilful. Before he alluded to the topics he intended to speak upon, he would say a word in respect to what had fallen from Mr. Denison. Mr. Denison had said, the 12,000 who voted for him (Sir C. Eardley) did so because of his views of the separation. This showed that while religious prejudices had been appealed to on the one hand, the battle on the other had been fought on the broad principles of civil and religious liberty. ["No, no!"] Mr. Denison had stated that Mr. Cobden was with him on education; but Mr. Denison only supported religious education by the State. ["No, no!"] He had stated, if he did not mistake his words, that to an education based upon religion, he desired the State to afford every aid. ["No, no!"]

Mr. Denison.—I have frequently stated that I had no anxiety for inspectors of schools to interfere with religious education. I have declared that I agree with the Minutes of Council on Education, which provides that the inspector of schools shall not interfere with the religious education of the children [cheers].

Sir C. Eardley repeated that Mr. Denison had stated his determination to support a religious education only, while Mr. Cobden was in favour of secular education [hear, hear]. He would now thank the 12,000 electors who had polled for him. If it had not been for the 1,500 votes abstracted from the other side, he would have had a majority. Whence did these votes come? [loud cries of "Lancashire" and "faggot votes"]. He found that in the agricultural districts 1,100 votes recorded for Milton in 1841 had not voted for him (Sir Culling) now [loud Conservative cheers]. The fact was this—in the agricultural districts there were 1,100 Whigs, or tenants of Whigs who either voted from their own conviction, or because of letters from their landlords [applause and cries of "League votes"]. Well, there was another alternative—they might have been influenced by copies of letters published by a great landlord [interruption].

Mr. Denison begged his friends to hear Sir Culling, as his illness had prevented his going round the Riding [cheers].

Sir C. Eardley said, he had accounted for 1,100 votes, and he asked those acquainted with the agricultural districts whether the same principle would not account for the other 400? He was not defeated because Toryism was rampant in Yorkshire, but because Whigs had deserted their cause [disapprobation]. He had been misrepresented. He had been charged with opposing the Dissenters' Chapels Bill; but the fact was, he was out of England during the whole time that bill was before the Legislature; and during the time he was abroad he took no part in anything in England. Another misrepresentation had been made by an individual now upon the platform, the Hon. J. Wortley [laughter and disapprobation]. They owed it to Mr. Wortley and himself to hear every word. He had been charged with intolerance in the *Times*. He had called upon the reporters to take down every word he uttered, in his appeal to the editor of the *Times*, either to prove his imputation of intolerance or withdraw his observations. He failed in getting it put into a tangible shape in that quarter. The *Times* published the whole of that speech except one sentence, and that one was that in which he appealed to them to do him justice. Until he came into Yorkshire he had been aware of the *Times* holding strong opinions, but he also believed that the *Times* truly reported facts. But in the office of the *Times* reports were altered and garbled [cries of "Shame," "Hear," laughter, and cheers]; and the only sentence which the *Times* excluded was that in which he, as an Englishman, endeavoured to get justice done to himself [hear, hear]. He then adverted to the Roman Catholic circular issued in Edinburgh, charging him with bigotry, and the charge of Mr. Wortley, that he was intolerant because he opposed state education to the Roman Catholics. He opposed it to all alike, and he congratulated the people of Yorkshire upon 25,000 of them having voted against a Roman Catholic establishment in Ireland. He said he had been charged with being afraid to vote upon the Reform Bill, but the fact was, that he was the first speaker for that bill, but could not vote upon it in consequence of having been summoned to the death-bed of his brother-in-law in Italy. He congratulated them upon the result of the election, which had proved that Exeter-hall contained some friends of the people. It proved that Bibles and tracts did not make men bigots; and for the honour of him whose name he bore, and whose principles he followed, he was bound to say that, the more a man threw aside bigotry and sectarianism, the more he laid hold of the quinine of the book, and the more would he befriend the people [hear, hear]. It was not to Christianity that the working men were opposed, but to a selfish form of it. [A voice.—"What is a selfish form?"] That form which led men to get all they could for themselves and give nothing to other people [A voice.—"That is not Christianity: it is Conventualism," and cheers]. He could desire the spread of the Gospel among those before and around him; for it would make them better landlords and better tenants, and would unite all parties in the extension of the rights and the liberties, and the franchise of the people [cheers and hisses].

The Hon. J. Wortley rose, amidst loud cheers, and then addressed the meeting at some length in vindication of himself, and was replied to by Sir Culling.

Mr. Denison proposed a vote of thanks to the Sheriff, which was seconded by Sir C. Eardley, and the proceedings terminated at two o'clock. Mr. Denison then remounted his charger, and accompanied by a large procession, rode through various streets in the town.

Bolton.—Dr. Bowring, whose eminent qualifications as a linguist are so well known, has been appointed her Majesty's Consul at Canton. The learned gentleman has long been in a state of health which required his residence in a warmer climate. On Thursday evening, a meeting of the most influential Reformers was held, to take the matter into consideration, when it was unanimously resolved to request Sir Joshua Walmsley to allow himself to be put in nomination.

The Borough of Truro.—Besides Mr. Humphery Willyams in the Liberal, and Sir S. Spry in the Tory interest, Mr. Montague Smith, of the Western Circuit, a moderate Conservative, and Mr. Phillimore, second son of Dr. Phillimore, also a Conservative, have been added, we learn, to the list of candidates for this borough. Mr. Willyams and Mr. Montague Smith have good local interest, and the contest is expected to be severe. We have heard of another candidate, also a Liberal, whose name we are not at liberty to mention at present.—*Daily News*.

Leominster Election.—Mr. Peel and Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton remain in the field, but neither of the candidates has made much progress since our last report. Both the baronet and Mr. Peel complain that the electors are withholding their promises—with what object may be surmised by those versed in the doings of Leominster elections. Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton positively declares, that unless the electors make up their minds soon, he shall make up his, and take his departure. A very full meeting of the burgesses has just been held, at which the hon. baronet attended, and made a very long speech. Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton entered into an exposition of his opinions upon the prevailing political topics of the day. He advocated a thorough investigation of our national expenditure, and a reduction wherever safely practicable. This should come before constitutional reform. He did not think that they ought to wait for financial reform until they got constitutional reform. As to the suffrage, he thought that the elector ought to be protected from all undue influence, and to be permitted to vote conscientiously, and therefore he was in favour of the ballot. There were certain objections to the principle of vote by ballot, but until they could show him a better mode of protection it should continue to receive his support. The extension of the suffrage was a question which required some attention. He was not in favour of universal suffrage, and he disapproved of household suffrage. There should be an extension of the franchise; but the question was, to what extent? He was for popular education. Give him that, and he did not care how far the suffrage was extended. Whenever he heard a plan of education proposed which was likely to qualify the people for the exercise of the suffrage, he should be ready to give it his warmest support. With reference to the endowment question, he did not wish to raise "the Protestant cry;" but he thought there was nothing more impolitic, nothing more improper, than the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy. What was the pretence for endowing Roman Catholicism? The reason given by statesmen was, that they could better govern Ireland through her priesthood, when, by their donations, they attached that priesthood to the State. Now, he did not like governing a people through a priesthood. He disapproved of the principle altogether; and would wish to see Ireland governed by the civil law, and not by a priesthood, for the government of a priesthood was a priestcraft. He conceived nothing was so impolitic as to endow a Roman Catholic clergy, and especially at a time when there was a cry in the country against endowment at all. The honourable candidate's address was received in very good humour by a crowded audience.

Refusal of Burial.—A clergyman in Blairgowrie, Perthshire, having refused baptism to the child of a schoolmaster, the case went the run of the Church Courts, and ended in the baptism of the child. The schoolmaster then instituted a civil action: and, in absence, the Lord-Ordinary found the defendant liable to £500 damages personally, and £1,500 in conjunction with his Kirk-Session. In the meantime, the clergyman has commenced a new suit against the schoolmaster's wife, for non-attendance at church.

THE FINANCIAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

TAXATION.—SECTION 1.—PART II.

The Financial Reform Association proceed now o consider more in detail "The effect of our present system of taxation, as especially illustrated by the Customs and Excise duties, on the physical condition of the great bulk of the community, more especially on the industrious and labouring classes."

They adopt, as a text on this subject, the following remarks from Porter, on "Public Revenue and Expenditure," page 476:—"It has always excited dissatisfaction on the part of the public to be called on for the payment of any tax from which they have not the power to protect themselves, by abstaining from the use of the taxed commodity. It is this consideration which has always made our finance ministers prefer indirect to direct taxation, and which led, during the progress of a long and expensive war, to the imposition of duties that weighed with destructive force upon the springs of industry."

Worded as the above extract is, it becomes, in its plain meaning, rank nonsense; for where would be the use of calling upon the *public* to pay taxes, from which they have the power and the right to exempt themselves! and where would be the wisdom or the success of Finance Ministers in always yielding to this consideration? With the alteration, however, of one word, it is pregnant with meaning, and will open up to us the manner in which the defenceless, because unrepresented, though labouring and producing classes, have hitherto been oppressed. For the word *public*, substitute *lawmakers*, including all those who have a voice in the choice of their representatives; and it contains a truth as impossible to deny, as it is to defend the gross dishonesty it discloses. Read according to this wording, it implies that all who have had any voice in imposing the taxes have hitherto endeavoured to place them, so that they themselves may escape from the burthen, and that this consideration has always met with the acquiescence and support of our Finance Ministers, who have accomplished it through the medium of *indirect* taxation. Now, as we know from experience that the Ministers have always raised since that period, (1797) to which this extract originally had raference, yearly revenue ranging from £23,000,000 as in that year, to £58,000,000 and upwards, as in the year ending 5th January, 1847, we are constrained to conjecture that there must have been a *compulsory* power of taxation somewhere; and that though the voluntary system was here introduced in favour of those who thus displayed an "impatience of taxation" (though not an *ignorant* impatience) it was so blended with the *compulsory* system, that those whom *it* embraced could not escape, but at the sacrifice of life; or, in other words, that the Minister, in allowing the richer portion of the community the privilege of escaping taxation, was compelled to sacrifice, even to the death, a greater number of the poorer people. And in this conjecture we are borne out by the concluding sentence of this extract, "and which led" (a preference for indirect or direct taxation) "during the progress of a long and expensive war, to the imposition of duties that weighed with destructive force on the springs of industry;" and we are confirmed by the fact that most of those duties, after a peace of nearly thirty-four years, still remain, and that their "destructive force on the springs of industry" are becoming every day more demonstrable, as numerous Parliamentary committees of inquiry indisputably prove, amongst which it may be sufficient, at present, to specify the committee and its report on our commercial relations with China.

The Association do not use the strong expression "to sacrifice, even to the death, a greater number of the poorer people," without due consideration and ample justification, as will be apparent when the items of indirect taxation are specified and examined. Taking them from the "return" before quoted, of the "Public Income and Expenditure of the United Kingdom for the year ending the 5th of January, 1847, they are as follows; namely,—

Spirits: Foreign	£1,207,392	
Rum	1,219,535	
British	5,949,151	
		£8,376,078
Tea		5,112,005
Malt		5,084,650
Tobacco and Snuff		4,319,088
Sugar and Molasses		4,050,418
Wine		1,892,242
Timber		1,133,672
Excise Licenses		1,086,155
Soap		965,836
Paper		798,814
Coffee		756,838
Corn		723,600
Bricks, &c.		638,422
Currants and Raisins		470,263
Hops		286,265
Silks		235,377
Post Horse Duties		179,832
Butter		136,543
Candles and Tallow		89,888
Cheese		88,289
Glass		18,822
Coals, sea-borne		
Miscellaneous		845,706
		£37,288,803

The first necessaries of life—indeed the very essentials—without which it cannot be maintained, are food and shelter, not to particularize fuel and clothing. And how are these affected by the above list of taxes? All are enhanced in price, and by it placed beyond the reach of millions—bread, cheese, butter, sugar, currants and raisins, in the way of food; and as drinks—tea, coffee, beer, wine. As regards shelter, the materials which furnish it escape not, as witness the tax on timber, bricks, &c. With which of these can the poor, can any man, dispense, without material want, inconsistent with the intention of the Almighty as exemplified by His bountiful supplies to all creatures? while to dispense with the use of all would be inevitable death, and amount to self-murder. Yet such is the alternative to the poor, if, like their richer brethren, they wish "to protect themselves by abstaining from the use of taxed commodities." Secondary to these, only from the fact that they are not *essential* to life, are tobacco, soap, paper, the taxes on which articles become, after those on food, the most objectionable that can be conceived to large classes of the community. To what, under such a crushing load of taxation, has the poor man to look for comfort and happiness? Shelter, food, fuel, *all* taxed, *all* put beyond his reach, except the almost spontaneous productions of the earth, potatoes, water, and mud. On the two first he may, perhaps, hold together in physical existence his body and soul, and with the last build himself a miserable cabin; but what the ultimate result of such a state of millions will be, let the present and recently past condition of Ireland answer. And yet to this state is the present system of taxation hurrying us.

These evils can only be removed by the present lavish expenditure being reduced in conjunction with an entire change in the mode of raising the necessary taxes. The interest on the debt must be provided for; but the three great war establishments of army, navy, and ordnance may be, and must be, cut down. If they are maintained on their present footing, the people will know at what cost to themselves, depriving thousands, nay millions, of shelter and food, the two essentials of life, to say nothing of the simplest comforts. If the ruling classes are determined to persist in such a course, they must expect to hear the question asked by those whom such a system crushes to the earth, "What is the benefit of such Government to them?" They might as well run all risks of foreign invasion and its consequences, terrible as they are, as be thus pushed out of life, by taxes imposed against the occurrence of any such contingency. To them the one is remote and uncertain, while the other is sure and always present. True Conservative policy points out the necessity of removing such sources of discontent, which, however, before they can be removed, must be known; but the governing classes, placed, as they are, so much above the suffering millions, with little sympathy with, and less knowledge of, their wretched state, are not likely to make the discovery, so that it becomes the imperative duty of an Association, such as this, to place it on record, and bring it pointedly under the consideration of all classes—the represented, the representatives, the nobles, the executive, the Sovereign.

The Association propose, in the next part of this section, to examine more minutely every individual article contained in this list, with a view of illustrating more perfectly the effect of the system on the social condition of the people.

SCIENCE AND ART.

THE MAGNETIC CURE.

A correspondent, "Scrutator," of 22, Southampton-street, Bloomsbury-square, writes:—The lady of a physician in India, who has been for some months under my care, requested me to communicate some instructions in the magnetic cure, for her husband. I send you the result. If you deem the remarks possess interest, they are perfectly at your service.

The magnetic cure depends upon a wonderful law of nature—that every human being has power to transfuse, in accordance with the laws of divine order, energy from his nerves to those of another individual or animal. Under the action of the same law, every infant is supplied with much of its energy, since to ensure this supply, the tenderest sympathies are implanted in a mother's breast. When able to walk, the muscles, in their expansion and contraction, enable the child to supply itself from the earth and air more copiously with actinism or *energia*, than the lungs and external nerves are able to do when the body remains quiescent.

An invalid reduced in respect of locomotive power to a child's position, is most promptly cured by transfusion of nervous energy from a healthy frame, which is able to direct the *concentrated essence of fresh air* to those portions of the frame which from time to time need supply.

Power to transfuse health, or disease, is lent to every man after his kind, but the extent of his power to impart health, like every other good gift of God to man, is regulated by the extent of his qualifications, spiritual, moral, intellectual, and physical.

A simple countryman who possesses strong physical powers, may shed healthful influences around upon those who wish to receive them from him.

Directed by intelligence, the man who recognises a principle so far analogous to electricity as to respond in a great measure to the same laws, becomes aware that a point conducts such influences more powerfully than a plain surface; and, therefore, directs the points of his fingers to the exact spot on which he has determined to operate.

He who knows not when and where to act, may cure (as Holloway's pills sometimes do) a few simple, straightforward cases, to which his peculiar temperament is especially adapted, but should never be permitted to magnetize a critical or dangerous case.

It is perfectly impossible to follow a routine practice in magnetism, because when you have accomplished, by a few passes, what is required at one point, you must go on to the next, or you are not economizing your vitality. To enable them to do this, a few of the highest order of mesmerists possess a sensitiveness of nerve, which enables them to feel the seat of disease in passing the fingers over it, and a pain we call "sympathetic" will frequently strike a corresponding point of the body to that from which the patient suffers.

Bear in mind, that the right hand is as a positive, and the left hand is as a negative, pole of the human frame. Diseases generally go off from the left side under magnetic action. The thumb, especially, radiates muscular energy; first finger, neuralgic; second, magnetic; third, electric influence; and the little one appears particularly to affect the sinews.

By making passes with the hand over any part, de-carbonization of the blood in that region is greatly facilitated; while by pointing the right hand where you desire to arterialize more rapidly, and holding the left hand below it, the powerful magnetizer accomplishes his object with great facility, since he thus establishes a magnetic circle. So far as I yet know, this is a discovery of my own, not in possession of the English magnetic schools.

To relieve simple head-ache a few transverse passes are generally sufficient. In fever, my course is, first, by transverse passes to relieve the head; then direct energy from the right hand to the spleen, which in a short time relieves the stomach. I more than suspect, that the real office of the spleen is to secrete gastric juice; and you will remember, that Galen referred all fever to the spleen.

As the stomach obtains relief, the next obstruction must be looked for at the mouth of the duodenum. To meet this I direct energy to the liver until it secretes bile—afterwards attend to the bowels—and my patient is convalescent.

A fever, in which medicine has not been given, never yet baffled me for more than an hour. The magnetizer, meantime, becomes charged with feverish symptoms, which in this climate we get rid of by fresh air and exercise, with plenty of support. Never go to such a case upon an empty stomach.

To throw into mesmeric sleep, take the thumbs, gaze in the eye, and will your patient to sleep.

When you wish to wake a patient, transverse passes, or waving a silk handkerchief, will do it—but never make an up pass; this will wake him, while it leaves a tendency of the action of the frame towards the head, which you will see to be objectionable.

I suspect that in India mesmeric sleep will generally occur; then the patient is frequently able to direct the processes and cure; but too much reliance must not be reposed upon them; they often only reflect the mind of the operator, or err from causes not easily recognised.

This "gift of healing," the highest lent by God to man, is intended to "show forth His praise." It should never be perverted to purposes of amusement or curiosity; the man who does this deteriorates his curative power; while he who, blessed with large organs of benevolence, veneration, hope, &c., habitually calls them into active operation, other things being equal, will radiate the more curative energies.

The magnetizer runs great risks. In order to cure a very severe case, that has defied all treatment for years, a strong cerebral sympathy must be established. I think when this has been done to a great extent, that "if one perish both are lost," and therefore no one ought to interfere between a magnetizer and his patient. A magnetizer who sympathizes strongly, will sometimes be operated upon by the medicines his patient takes. All medicines taken should be mesmerized, and the quantity requisite will be greatly less. Mesmerized water is strongly recommended, but should never be offered to a patient who is likely to deem it farcical.

Dr. Ashburner last year went to Mr. Pereira, a secretary of the Brazilian legation, in the last stage of typhus, within a few hours of his inevitable death under ordinary modes of treatment, which had already been exhausted; for three hours and a half, in deep and fervent prayer, he continued the exhausting, and, if unsupported, dangerous process, and thus drew Mr. P. from the very jaws of death.

Dr. Ashburner writes an account of this in the "Zoist," gives all the names of parties concerned, and adds, "He who can concentrate his energies in prayer will succeed better than he who allows his thoughts to wander." The magnetizer's strength lies in that

> "Prayer, which is the soul's sincere desire,
> Uttered or unexpress,
> The motion of a hidden fire,
> Which trembles in the breast."

I go still farther, believing that no man can safely spare the amount of vital energy necessary for the cure of very severe cases until his communion is intimate with the Father, through the recognition of Jesus Christ—"God manifested in the flesh"—as the great Teacher, whose law of Christian love is the bond of magnetic rapport.

COGGESHALL, DEC. 13.—J. Passmore Edwards visited this town to-day, and gave a descriptive lecture on the Peace Congress lately held at Brussels. Admission by ticket; and, notwithstanding a charge was made, it was a most respectable meeting. The lecture, which occupied two hours in its delivery, was frequently applauded. His allusion to the numerous applications at the Horse Guards for commissions, and his evident democratic views, were well received. F. U. Pattisson, Esq., one of our county magistrates, took the chair. A vote of thanks to Mr. Edwards was proposed in a short speech, advocating the peace principle, by the Rev. John Kay, Independent minister, and seconded by Mr. Rossiter; and, after a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

LITERATURE.

The Bible Psalms, according to the Authorized Version, set forth to appropriate Tunes and Chants for public and private Worship. By H. J. GAUNTLETT, Mus. Doc. Organ accompaniments. Also in separate volumes for the several parts. London: Lonsdale, Old Bond-street; and Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster-row.

THE praise of God in our churches is one of the most delightful acts of public worship. Though Christianity is in its principles a spiritual system, it has so much of adjustment to the constitution of man as never to be transcendental; never far removed from human partialities and earthly sympathies. Even heaven is painted in hues derived from earth; and vocal harmony, though we know not to what degree it may be cultivated in a superior condition of the body, is a constant metaphor to denote the combined powers and reciprocal exchanges of thought and feeling, which are the elements of the bliss of the future. Yet is no part of public worship less understood or more imperfectly performed. In most cases it is subject to no due regulation; neither churches nor ministers have, at least as such, any part in its control; it is left to take its course as best it may, upon the principle that singers, (like some explosive compounds,) are always better let alone, and, whilst they torture the excruciated ears of bystanders, and even often offend against the decencies and congruities of the house of God, are the *noli-me-tangeres* which worshippers are contented to abuse in private, and to treat in public as those who have a special privilege to mislead. We should be sorry by any means to underrate the efforts of our public performers of this part of divine service—usually voluntary as they are; but it surpasses our comprehension to conceive why they should continually claim to be exempt from all restraint; or why the minister, who is bound to regulate all the public worship of God, should be, as by common consent, debarred from interfering in this most important part of its performance. Musical, in the full sense of the term, he may not always be; but he is usually possessed of some taste as to the moral bearings of the performance; and it would be "a consummation devoutly to be wished," that the church, which usually includes some persons of superior attainments, should take this part of God's worship under its special inspection.

It is not wonderful if this system of mismanagement have introduced innumerable evils. Singing pews are often the theatres of contentions and disorder; and the fear of being left without a choir at all, has led pious Christians to tolerate, with ill-disguised displeasure, what they have thought it impossible to remedy. The style of tunes selected, too, has been that of most barbaric splendour; compositions with which the musical taste of even the middle ages would have been disgusted. Indeed, the middle ages, bad as they were in many respects, were, in the style of congregational melody and performance, far beyond the present. And let us just cast our eyes over the mass of the most popular congregational melodies. Think of "Piety," with its level dulness, in which there is scarcely any chord above the common one; or of "Calcutta," in which the effort seems to have been to set the action of a ship's pump to music; or of "Comfort," in which the first idea is a plagiarism, and the rest a rant which Handel would have torn off his wig to hear; or of "Lydia New," where the notes now run a wretched race for precedence, and then spurt up like the liquid of some overheated cauldron; or of "Cranbrook," which deserves to originate a lunatic asylum for its own special benefit. It is needless, however, to particularize. In some, deep calls unto deep, with no expression of grandeur; in others, the unwholesome concatenation of sounds resembles the altercation of some public-house quarrel; whilst in others again, the effect is like that of a steam-engine broken away from its fastenings, and carrying havoc and desolation in its train. Mr. Waite has done well to introduce his reform bill into this system of musical representation; and though we do not agree with him in many respects, we heartily wish that his efforts may supersede something, at least, of what has become so intolerable.

Before noticing the works of Dr. Gauntlett, we will devote a remark or two more to another part of this theme. Where there is no musical instrument, the old-fashioned mode of singing in parts is perhaps requisite. Yet, even there, it demands to be conducted with considerable discrimination. All fugue tunes should be abominated, as usually quite beyond the reach of the congregation in general, or even, when they are not, exciting a degree of conceit at the skilful performance of allotted parts, by no means in keeping with that chaste and severe style which the public worship of God enjoins. We do not advocate melodies which are merely grave and heavy. It is of importance that the congregation feel an interest in the tune, else the singers perform alone; a state of things which, of all others, is the most offensive and intolerable. But if there be a choir to lead the singing, we think that the congregation in general ought to sing the air. And in this respect Mr. Waite's system may bear some criticism. So long, indeed, as those who sing the various parts sing from book, and all of them from the *same* book, there can be no great objection to singing in parts, provided they sing perfectly in tune, which is not always the case; but it seldom happens that an amateur performer extemporizes a part, unless he have a very fine ear indeed, without often placing wrong chords in wrong places, and sometimes altogether destroying the effect of the combined harmony. We have often observed this effect when the tunes of "The Psalmist," containing sometimes unusual harmonies, have been sung; and, where there is an instrument, its power ought to be perfectly sufficient, in the hands of a tolerably skilful performer, to maintain all the parts; and if the register be sufficiently low, the congregation may easily sing the air, as they do upon the continent, where the fine effect of a whole multitude singing in unison is sometimes unusually grand.

It would be of great advantage if, in addition to our metrical psalms, we could introduce into our congregations the use of those which are found in our ordinary Bibles. We know that we shall be accused of advocating innovations, and are quite aware that the subject is a somewhat delicate one, and in its introduction will require special judgment and patience. In many of our congregations Dr. Watts has obtained a firm footing; and as there is a Dissenting taste as well as a mucical one, and as the most cherished recollections of many are bound up with some of his psalms and hymns, we would not for the world banish his book nor that of Wesley. Neither are we disposed to think that the psalms are never to be divested of their Jewish dress. We have enough of Judaism already, and now that Christianity is come, we prefer that Christian truth shall illuminate, as it was doubtless intended to do, the distant prospects of those who "without us could not be made perfect." But we remember, years ago, to have heard in a Dissenting chapel the chorus, "Now unto Him that is able to keep us from falling," &c., and we thought at the time, what metrical hymn could be more appropriate? It is well known that Andrew Fuller, remarkable as he was, according to his own confession, for being born in "a flat key," and therefore not a little jealous of innovation, strongly advocated this practice. We look that the day will come when we shall sing, in our public assemblies, and in our private circles too, the Psalms from the Bible as well as from the Paraphrase. And though we desire to be kept far, very far, from the senseless gabble which is bound to recite a varying number of words, whether more or less, in the same time; and have no wish certainly to advocate canons and choristers as a part of a national religion; and would be most careful not to destroy the *prestige* of Dissenting simplicity, the value of which is more than rubies; we think that something may be done in this direction with great advantage.

The object of the present publication is to assist in this praiseworthy design. Dr. Gauntlett is already well known as a musical composer of no small eminence. In his well-written preface he says:—

"So long as chanting the prose-poems of the Bible was properly conducted, it remained a popular and much-loved practice; but when the psalms were sung with such haste and confusion that no one syllable could be distinguished from another, nor even one verse from another; when such singing ceased to produce any expression of words or articulation of syllables, the people naturally refused it, and preferred a reading of the psalms in prose and singing them as hymns. At the Reformation it was intended that the people should sing the Bible psalms and prose hymns; reading this poetry could not have been contemplated, for if so England would have been left without any singing in Church worship."

Those who value the Reformation, however, will not soon be brought to despise the metrical songs which belonged to it, and which put its doctrines definitely and clearly before the minds of the people. Nor can we hold religious psalmody, regarded in this view, with any equivocal esteem. Songs not only follow national feeling, but maintain it; and religious psalmody not only expresses what men believe, but upholds it with a power to which creeds and confessions are as nothing. Tractarianism may live, as Popery does, in spite of the Psalms: neither could co-exist with the New Testament nor with metrical versions of it. If, therefore, we speak of Dr. Gauntlett's Psalms for use, we advocate no abandonment of the past system.

The work before us has some peculiarities—the nature of which is explained by a reference to the 114th Psalm:—

"In this psalm," says Dr. Gauntlett, "every verse contains two lines; the second is the echo or parallel of the first. It is the answering thought, the antiphonal idea, the alternate expression, the responsorial affirmation of the primal idea in the foregoing line."—"As the psalm verse consists of two parallel ideas, in two strains or lines, so the psalm chant consists of two parallel strains or parts. Each strain consists of a reciting note, followed by a terminal or cadence, which varies according to the number of accents included in the terminal. The reciting note or point of declamation stands separate and apart from the cadence, and is not to be taken into calculation when the accents of the cadence are the subject of consideration. The number of accents which follow the reciting note never vary, but the number of syllables to be included in the accents do; and in this circumstance consists the arbitrary and uncertain character of chanting which obtains in the present day."

The author contends that if the first accent, or first and second accents, were included in the respective reciting notes, and if the chant were "constructed of a reciting note and a monosyllabic or dissyllabic cadence, many difficulties would vanish, and chanting would be characterised by the utmost simplicity and strictest uniformity of method." For exemplifications the reader is referred to the work itself. Dr. Gauntlett further maintains that this form continues to be used in many churches, and is, in fact, the ancient form.

The character of the chants contained in this volume is extremely simple. Artificial melodies are entirely discarded, and the only effort has been to give the most congenial expression possible to the words. In so large a collection of psalms, the merits of the chants must of course vary. Some are extremely beautiful, and a successful attempt has been made in most cases to catch the peculiar features of the sentiment. In some psalms considerable variety is introduced with great advantage. In a few cases, as in several parts of Psalm xxxvii., the chant consists simply of a monotone, in which much of the effect depends upon the musical performer. These, however, are much varied by interjections of melodies—if such we may call them. Yet the effect of the whole is novel and striking, though perhaps these are not the most meritorious parts of the volume. The chants are not wholly, though they are mainly, original. The words are adapted, in general, with great taste, yet now and then the small syllables are too prominent, and the accent occasionally falls awkwardly. Heard with effect, and Dr. Gauntlett himself presiding, the effect is extremely powerful. So far as our hearty commendation can go, they are due to these volumes. They display taste, talent, and a true devotional taste. The work might be introduced to our congregations, and to private circles, with great advantage. Nothing is better calculated to purify the tone, and to dignify the style, of our public praises. Nor are they less adapted to the private than to the public worship of God.

The author gracefully states that "for the origination and appearance of these volumes, he is indebted to his friend, Samuel Smith, Esq., whose fine taste and great munificence in all matters connected with the improvement of music for the sanctuary have proved of the highest possible benefit in the districts where he has been placed"—a well-merited eulogium.

The Town; its Memorable Characters and Events. By LEIGH HUNT. St. Paul's to St. James's. With Forty-five Illustrations. In Two Vols. London: Smith, Elder and Co., 65, Cornhill.

MANY of our readers have walked the streets of London at this season of the year, thinking it, as they bestrode it, the metropolis of fog, and gloom, and pent-up exhalations. To others, who compare it with the manufacturing towns of the north, it appears well built, well governed, airy, and pleasant. There are, however, few to whom London is a large book of antiquarian reading and historical reminiscence. Now as this is the kind of thing in which we especially delight—as we reverence the spectres of the past, peering out upon us from behind some heavy buttress or some unnoticed window—it may be imagined that we have welcomed Mr. Leigh Hunt's volumes with no ordinary satisfaction. The author tells us that a large part of the contents of these volumes appeared some years since in his *London Journal*, under the title of "The Streets of London." As it was not our good fortune, nor perhaps has it been that of many of our readers, to meet with this periodical, we shall treat the present as a new work, and as a very charming production too.

Mr. Hunt does his best to enlighten our minds on the mysterious subject of the origin of London—he goes back even to its Preadamite history, and tells us all that man can tell, viz., that possibly some Megalotherium, or other creature with a still harder name, trampled at that time the spot at will—or that, by equal possibility, some crocodile "snapped at some remote ancestor of a fishmonger in the valley of Dowgate." We, however, whose space is so limited, cannot go back so far, but must be content to take the existence of London as an original fact, referring the reader to Mr. Hunt's volume for a sketch of the origin and growth of the metropolis. After a brief introduction of this subject in general, the author escorts us to St. Paul's—the site of which is imagined to have been a burial-ground of the ancient Britons, to have been subsequently the place on which a Christian church was built by King Ethelbert, and afterwards restored on a much larger scale. In the reign of William the

Conqueror a third church was built on the spot, which it took 150 years to complete, and which lasted, with many alterations, additions, and improvements, till the great fire of London. At that time it stood a Norman Gothic building, embellished with a beautiful Corinthian portico by Inigo Jones. The spire, 520 feet high, which had once adorned it, was no more, but the whole building was still capacious and imposing. Mr. Hunt gives us many pleasant anecdotes of the fashionable loungers of the day perambulating the inside of the cathedral, tells the origin of the phrase, dining with Duke Humphrey, relates the ceremony of the boy bishop, and gives the histories of Jane Shore, Paul's Cross, St. Paul's School, the desecration of the church by the Parliamentary soldiers, who played at ninepins, and set up stables within it, though their treatment of it was scarcely more offensive to propriety than the existence of the shops which then occupied its whole portico, for milliners and traders in small wares. The re-erection of the church under Sir Christopher Wren is described, but scarcely with the emphasis which it deserves.

Mr. Hunt now leads us to Paternoster-row, Stationers'-hall, Doctors' Commons, Ludgate, a view of the old gate being given, the Belle Sauvage, Shakspeare's Theatre, &c. &c.; passing down Fleet-street, visiting the Temple, Chancery-lane, Clifford's-inn, &c. &c.; amusing us all the way with a profusion of historical recollections. To abridge is impossible.

We come next into the Strand, which in the reign of Edward III. was an open country road, and which had become in the reign of Edward VI. a line of houses on the one side and of wall on the other. Here stood the habitation of Queen Elizabeth's Earl of Essex; here was the imaginary resting-place of Mr. Justice Shallow. Congreve, Henrietta Maria, Waller, Johnson, Raleigh, Garrick, Barry, Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, Franklin, Lord Herbert of Cherbury, Percy, Bishop of Dromore, Goldsmith, are names associated with different spots in this far-famed locality. We next visit Lincoln's-inn and its neighbourhood, with recollections of Cromwell, More, Hale, Pepys, and Lord Russell, to give interest to its neighbourhood.

Great Queen-street, Drury-lane, and Covent-garden, introduce large dramatic reminiscences, over which we must pass lightly. The conclusion of the second volume is, to us, the most fascinating part of the whole work. It is a history of the court-end of London, in the various epochs of English history, from Henry VIII. down to Queen Victoria. We cannot refrain from an extract or two:—

"We have said more about Wolsey than we intend to say of Henry VIII.; for the son of the butcher was a great man, and his master was only a king. Henry, born a prince, became a butcher; Wolsey, a butcher, became a prince. And we are not playing upon the words as applied to the King; for Henry was not only a butcher of his wives, he resembled a brother of the trade in its better and more ordinary course. His pleasures were of the same order; his language was coarse and jovial; he had the very straddle of a fat butcher as he stands in his doorway. Take any picture or statue of Henry VIII.—fancy its cap off, and a knife in its girdle, and it seems in the very act of saying, 'What d'ye buy?—What d'ye buy?' There is even the petty complacency in the mouth, after the phrase is uttered."

Again:—

"We suspect that some excuse might be found for James I.'s tendency to drinking in the same lax and rickety constitution which made him timid and idle. His love of field sports might indeed have given him strength enough to counteract it, had he been forced into greater economy of living; but the sportsman is seldom famous for eschewing the pleasures of the table; he thinks he has earned and can afford excess; and so he can more than most men. James would have died of idleness and repletion at half the age he did, had he not been a lover of horseback; but when he got to his table he loved it too well. One excess produced another; the nerves required steadying; and the poor disjointed 'ill-contrived son of Mary (to use a popular but truly philosophic epithet) felt himself too stout and valiant by the help of the bottle, not to become over fond of it when he saw it return.' All his feelings were of the same incontinent, maudlin kind, easily flowing into temptation, and subjecting themselves to a ruler. The bottle governed him; the favourite governed him; his horse and dogs governed him; pedantry governed him; passion governed him; and when the fit was over, repentance governed him as absolutely."

"The occasion of the rupture between George I. and his son was curious. Palaces are very calm-looking places outside; but within, except in very wise and happy, or very dull reigns, are pampered passions, and, too often, violent scenes. George I. and his son, like most sovereigns and heirs apparent, were not on good terms. The Princess of Wales had been delivered of a second son, which was to be Christened, and the Prince wished his uncle the Duke of York to stand godfather with his Majesty. His Majesty, on the other hand, peremptorily insisted on dividing the pious office with the officious Duke of Newcastle. The christening accordingly took place in the Princess's bed-chamber, and no sooner had the bishop shut the book, than the Prince, furiously crossing the foot of the bed, and heedless of the King's presence, 'held up his hand and fore-finger to the duke in a menacing attitude (as Lady Suffolk described the scene to Walpole), and said, 'You are a rascal; but I shall find you,' (meaning in his broken English, 'I shall find a time to be revenged.') The next morning Lady Suffolk, then Mrs. Howard, while about to enter the Princess's apartment, was surprised to find her way barred by the yeomen with their halberts; and the same night the Prince and Princess were ordered to quit so unexpectedly, that they were obliged to go to the house of their chamberlain, the Earl of Grantham, in Albemarle-street. The father and son were afterwards reconciled, but they never heartily agreed."

Gossiping, varied, playful, instructive, these volumes are an indispensable companion to all those who would intelligently walk the streets of London.

A brief acknowledgment is made of the following:—*Remarks on the Government Scheme of National Education as applied to Scotland.* By Lord Melgund, M.P. Edinburgh: Black.—The object of this pamphlet is to show "that the Government plan, if it does not actually suggest, necessarily encourages the introduction of the new practice of disunited education," against which the writer protests, and urges "the right of the public to exercise control over their own institutions." We differ with the views of the author, but are bound to say that his pamphlet is extremely well written.——*Sketches. Part I. Joseph Lancaster and his Contemporaries. Part II. William Allen, his Life and Labours.* By Henry Dunn. London: Houlston and Stoneman.—This is well done, and a good specimen and of vigorous and ably-condensed biography.——*Authorized Street-preaching; proposed as a Remedy for our Social Evils. In a Letter to the Venerable Archdeacon.* By a Country Pastor. London: George Bell, Fleet-street.——*Singing for Schools and Congregations: a Grammar of Vocal Music.* Edited by John Curwen. Second Edition. London: Ward and Co.—This little work contains many suggestions of great propriety and value. Though we cannot, in our columns, expound Mr. Curwen's system, it has special excellences, and lovers of congregational singing will do well to make themselves acquainted with it.——*Episcopacy without Prelacy.* London: Hall, 25, Paternoster-row.—We do not pledge ourselves to the accuracy of the views of this pamphlet; but it is a subject to be well thought upon; and it will aid in advancing the secession from the Establishment, which is most surely coming.——*The Divinity of the Christian's History.* By D. Thomas. London: B. L. Green.——*Christianity, its Progress, and present Impediments.* By Thomas Mills. London: Bakewell, Newgate-street.—Both these pamphlets are worthy of recommendation.

*** We are extremely desirous of attending immediately to works which have been sent us for review. And of late we think we may claim credit for some punctuality in this department. We are obliged, however, to defer the notice of many publications for the present.

COURT, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

Prorogation of Parliament.—At the Queen's Privy Council, held at Osborne on Saturday, Parliament was ordered to be further prorogued from Tuesday, the 19th December, until the 1st February next, and by advice of the Privy Council a proclamation was ordered, directing that Parliament shall on the said 1st February be held, and sit for the despatch of business. A supplement to the *Gazette* was accordingly published on Saturday, containing the proclamation.

Mr. Smith, of Deanston, is to be appointed one of the superintendent inspectors under the General Board of Health.

Prince Albert and the Working Men's Prize Essays.—In answer to a memorial forwarded through Lord Ashley to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, requesting him to preside at the meeting for the announcement of the adjudicators and the distribution of prizes, offered to working men, for essays written by them on the temporal advantages of the Sabbath to the labouring classes, of which there were 1,045 competitors, the following answer has been received through Lord Ashley by the adjudicators:—

His Royal Highness Prince Albert has desired me to express his regret that he is unable to comply with the request of the memorialists, and take the chair at the distribution of the prize essays on the Sabbath. His Royal Highness, however, feels a very deep sympathy with the striking and meritorious efforts of the working classes, and he concludes his letter by saying, "I think that, now that more prizes are being collected for the hitherto unsuccessful candidates, I can best contribute towards the object by giving ten of the additional five pound prizes, and asking you to be kind enough to present them to the successful authors in my name." "The 'Pearl of Days' has interested and pleased both the Queen and myself extremely."—(Signed) Ashley.

The Postal Convention between England and the United States.—The basis of the postal convention with the United States has at last been finally settled, and a draft of the convention itself will be sent by this day's steamer to America, for ratification by the senate of the United States. By the convention a considerable reduction will be made upon the postage of American letters.

Her Majesty has subscribed £100 towards the Jubilee Fund of the Church Missionary Society.

The *Times* contradicts on authority an announcement made by some of the papers, that Lord Seymour was to succeed Mr. Charles Buller as Chief Commissioner of the Poor-law Board.

GLEANINGS.

The first Concordance to the Bible was made under the direction of Hugo de St. Charo, who employed 500 monks upon it, A.D. 1247.

Among some timber sold by auction in London last week, were 3,980 pieces of oak from Mount Olympus.

The Pope of 1848 escaping from Rome in the livery of a footman, and further disguised in a pair moustachios, will be a subject for the future historical painter.

A Modest Disclaimer.—An advertising chandler modestly says, that "*without intending any disparagement to the sun*, he may confidently assert that his octagonal spermaceties are the best lights ever invented!"

A poulterer at Spalding, Lincolnshire, is preparing to supply the London market with Christmas fare, by fattening upwards of 3,000 geese, which daily eat 21 sacks of oats!

The *Boston Gazette* (U.S.), shows how boxes govern the world: "The cartridge-box, the ballot-box, the jury-box, *and* the band-box."

Macaulay's History of England is already out of print—a week after publication!

Mr. Hudson has purchased the Pocklington Canal for £18,000.

Building Societies.—Such has been the progress of the great principles of building societies, such the universality of their practice, that the once but few, have increased to many hundreds, almost to thousands; and the number of their members, and the annual amount of their pecuniary incomes reach also the startling sum of millions.

The "Duke," Dady, brought a tortoise to England five feet long, which would crawl along the deck with the captain and two or three sailors on his back.

EPITAPH ON THREE DOGS.

"Heroes and Kings, how vain your boasts appear!
Cæsar and Fame with little Pomp lie here!"

East Cowes Castle, it is said, has been taken for a term of years by the Count de Neuilly.

We find in the analysis of bankruptcy (from Oct. 1847, to Nov. 1848) in *Knight's Almanac*, 164 victuallers, the largest number of any trade; grocers, 127; merchants, 102; drapers, 81 (exclusive of 32 linen drapers); ironmongers and founders, 64; wine and spirit merchants, 53; tailors, 47. Amongst the trades lowest in the list are fishmongers, four; hop merchants, pawnbrokers, seedsmen, and wool dealers, each three; and coffee-house keepers, coopers, and flax spinners, each three.

A Prophecy.—The singular prophecy made by Fleming, in the year 1702, is now well *en route* to its fulfilment. Nearly a century and a half ago that singular Vates foretold the French Revolution of 1789, that the Papacy would then receive a severe blow through the sides of the French Monarchy, and that the final overthrow of the Pope would take place in the year 1848, although he said there was a *possibility* that the Pope of Rome might linger in the Vatican (completely shorn of his power) until the close of the century.

The King of Bavaria has offered a prize of 100 ducats for the best essay on the subject, "By what means can the poverty of the lower orders of the inhabitants of Germany, and more especially of Bavaria, be most advantageously and permanently relieved?" The essays are to be given in by the 31st of January next, and will be submitted for decision to a competent committee nominated by the King.

[Advertisement.]—Galvanism.—The following is extracted from the *Court Journal* of January 29:—"It is now about four years since we informed our readers, it was to be regretted galvanism was not more extensively used as a remedial agent. We have every reason to believe that our advice was attended to; for in a comparatively short time, Mr. Halse's residence was crowded with the *élite* of fashion, and their less fortunate fellow-sufferers; and we feel confident, judging from the astonishing remedial effects it has produced on ourselves, after all kinds of medicine and hydropathy had failed to impart any benefit, that the public will thank us for our recommendation. We were delighted to notice, a short time since, that Mr. Halse was patronized by the Lord Bishop of London and Sir Charles Clark, his lordship's physician. Mr. Halse's great reforms in the galvanic apparatus, and his improved methods of application justly entitle him to rank as the head of his profession. We again recommend our readers to give galvanism a fair trial. Mr. Halse's residence is at 22, Brunswick-square, London.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 9, at St. Peter-square, Hammersmith, the wife of the Rev. G. Jones, of a son.

Dec. 13, the wife of Mr. W. H. Warton, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 30, in the Independent Chapel, Soresby-street, Chesterfield, by the Rev. T. H. Walker, Mr. George Roper to Miss Catherine Froggatt, both of Chesterfield.

Dec. 4, at Stapleton, near Bristol, George Barrow Lunell, third son of G. Lunell, Esq., of Woodgrove-house, Stapleton, to Mary Rebekah, elder daughter of the Rev. T. Haynes, of Bristol.

Dec. 11, in the Independent Chapel, Chesterfield, by the Rev. W. Blandy, Mr. Edward Elliott to Miss Elizabeth Adams, both of Chesterfield.

Dec. 19, by the Rev. J. Fernie, in the Independent Chapel, Farnham, the Rev. E. Verrue, minister of the Reformed Church of France, to Emma, third daughter of Mr. Randall, of Farnham, Surrey.

DEATHS.

Nov. 28, at Broomgrove, Sheffield, at an advanced age, Mrs. Thomas, relict of the late L. Thomas, Esq., of that place.

Nov. 29, at Tregonissey in St. Austell, Cornwall, aged 31, Mary, the beloved wife of the Rev. J. H. Osborne, Baptist minister, Wells, Somerset. Her hope in the mercy of God, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, was both sure and steadfast; and her end was peace.

Dec. 3, aged 82 years, John Butler, Esq., of Royston, Cambridgeshire.

Dec. 6, at Budleigh Salterton, Devon, much beloved and deeply lamented, aged 11, Sheppard Colmer Symes, son of the late C. Symes, Esq., of Calcutta, and step-son of the Rev. N. Parkyn.

Dec. 8, at Coventry, Sophia, the wife of Mr. R. Hands.

Dec. 10, at Sheffield, aged 70, Mrs. Slater, relict of the late Mr. J. Slater.

Dec. 11, at Cleveland, Somersetshire, in his 76th year, the Right Hon. Lord Dunsany. His lordship is succeeded by the Hon. Randal Edward Plunkett.

Dec. 14, at Hackney, after a protracted illness, aged 50 years, Rebecca, wife of Mr. A. Scrutton, and last surviving daughter of the late Dr. Conquest, of Chatham.

Dec. 18, at the house of her son-in-law, Mr. J. Fletcher, of Norwich, aged 69 years, Sarah, the widow of the late B. Williams, Esq., of Northcourt, Abingdon, Berks.

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The English Market has been gradually improving from the date of our last number. Contrary to every previous expectation, the election of Louis Napoleon, so far from producing a decline in the Funds, has had a surprisingly contrary effect. On Friday, when the news of his election was made more certain by the appearance of authenticated returns, Consols took a step of nearly a half per cent. and left off at 88¾. In truth, confidence—at least of a certain kind—cannot but be felt in the new French Government, just from its strength and the wonderful unanimity in the voice of the people in favour of the successful candidate. Both in Paris, therefore, and in London, the prices of stocks have risen and continue well and firmly supported. The quotations, at the close of business on the Exchange this evening stood as follows:—

Three per Cent. Consols, 88 to ¼. Bank Stock, 190 to 192. Reduced Threes were 88. Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 88¼ to ½; Long Annuities, 8 11-16; India Stock, 239 to 240; India Bonds, 36s. to 39s. premium. Exchequer Bills, 40s. to 43s. premium. South Sea Stock was done at 96¾.

In Foreign Stocks an improvement has been felt. Dutch, Russian, Peruvian, and Spanish have all risen. Mexican, however, is rather flatter, but "hopes" are entertained.

The Railway Market has shown several signs of rallying and a greatly increased business has been done in Shares. Most of the lines have advanced in quotations. The Share account, also, was adjusted on Saturday, which was of advantage to many descriptions of shares, and a large business took place in Great Northern, North British, Midland and Eastern Counties, at prices showing an improvement of ¼ and ½ to £1 and £2 per share, according to the amounts paid up. North Western, Caledonian, North Stafford, Great Western, South Eastern, and the French lines were also in favour. Before the close of the market there were two parties "declared" as being unable to meet their differences. Yesterday was also a busy day. To-day a large business has been done in shares, and for the French lines, at greatly enhanced rates, the inquiry is most active. A few of the English lines which rose most yesterday are more in favour of buyers, and we may include Great-Northern, North Stafford, Great-Western, and Midland in this remark. North-Western are higher again.

We again quote the following revised calculations to show the rate per cent. per annum yielded by the various securities cited at the average of the prices which ruled this day; where the asterisk (*) is placed, it is to be understood that the rate of dividend is less the income-tax:—

	Average price.	Yield per Cent.
Three per Cent. Consols	87¾	3 8 5¼
Three per Cent. Reduced	87¾	3 8 6¾
Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents.	88	3 13 10½
Bank Stock (div. 7 per cent.)	190	3 13 8
Exchequer Bills (int. 2½d. per day)	41s. p.	3 14 6
Lancashire and Yorkshire (div. 6 per c.)	60	8 11 11¼
Great Western *(div. 7 id.)	80	7 17 6
London and South Western *(div. 6 id.)	39	7 13 10
London and Brighton *(div. 2 3-5 id.)	30	4 6 8
Eastern Counties *(div. 4 id.)	12	6 13 4
London and North Western *(div. 7 id.)	121	5 15 8½
Midland *(div. 6 id.)	83	7 6 4
York and North Midland *(div. 8 id.)	52	7 13 10
York, Newcastle, and Berwick *(div. 8 id.)	26¼	7 10 11¼

The East Indian accounts by the overland mail which came in to-day read favourably, and the markets generally, although not exhibiting extraordinary activity, were in a healthy condition that promises well for the future.

The indications of improvement in the produce markets have ripened into something more during the past week, and the demand for several articles has become decidedly better. Sugar and coffee have been at improved values, and holders have not pressed sales. Grain is held for fully previous rates, but rice has been rather cheaper. Saltpetre has had a brisk sale at higher rates. Rum has been taken more freely. Spices have been rather in favour of buyers. Tea remains about the same. Tallow is lower. Metals have not been so much inquired for; and indigo, cotton, cochineal, and similar articles have an upward tendency.

From the provinces generally we have encouraging reports again, and there is much buoyancy of feeling.

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, Dec. 15.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 9th day of Dec., 1848.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Notes issued	27,733,735	Government Debt	11,015,100
		Other Securities	2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	13,225,826
		Silver Bullion	507,909
	£27,733,735		£27,733,735

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' Capital	14,553,000	Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity)	13,399,012
Rest	3,374,251	Other Securities	10,668,556
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings' Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	7,061,202	Notes	10,771,730
Other Deposits	9,567,966	Gold and Silver Coin	789,856
Seven-day and other Bills	1,002,726		
	£35,559,145		£35,559,145

Dated the 16th day of December, 1848.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BANKRUPTS.

CARISS, THOMAS, Thirsk, corn dealer, Jan. 11, Feb. 2: solicitors, Johnson and Co., Temple, London; Leman and Clark, York; and C. B. Courtenay, Leeds.

CHILD, SOLOMON, Ewhurst, Surrey, mealman, Dec. 29, Jan. 30; solicitors, Watson and Son, Bouverie-street, Hammersmith.

CLARK, PETER, jun., Colchester, pawnbroker, Dec. 21, Jan. 29: solicitors, Bull, Ely-place; and Abell, Colchester.

FIELDER, JOHN WEBB, and BRADBURY, JOHN, Thavies-inn, Holborn-hill, lace merchants, Dec. 22, Jan. 26: solicitors, Reed, Langford, and Marsden, Friday-street, Cheapside.

GARROOD, JAMES HENRY, Thornham Magna, Suffolk, grocer, Dec. 23, Feb. 3: solicitors, Abbott and Wheatley, Rolls-yard; and Miller and Son, Norwich.

HEYWARD, THOMAS NOSWORTHY, Torquay, grocer, Dec. 26, Jan. 24: solicitors, G. W. Turner, Exeter; and J. Spyer, 30, Broad-street-buildings, London.

PILLOW, EDWARD, Canterbury, Kent, paper-hanger, Dec. 27, Jan. 18: solicitor, Buchanan, Basinghall-street.

ROBERTS, ROBERT, 153, Minories, grocer, Dec. 26, Jan. 30 solicitor, T. Rogers, 3, Fenchurch-street, City.

SANGER, JAMES BLACKSHAW, Bristol, cabinet maker, Dec. 29, Jan. 18: solicitors, Blower, Vizard, and Co., Lincoln's-inn-fields, London; and J. J. Leman, Bristol.

THOMPSON, PETER, sen., 1, Osnaburgh-place, New-road, and Commercial-road, Limehouse, carpenter, Dec. 22, Jan. 26: solicitor, Medina, Crosby-hall-chambers, Bishopgate:

WOOD, THOMAS, Tunbridge, miller, Dec. 21, Jan. 18: solicitors, Coverdale and Co., 4, Bedford-row.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

GILLESPIE (or BROWN), Mrs. CATHERINE, relict of J. Brown, late shipmaster, Greenock, Dec. 20, Jan. 10.

LONG, WILLIAM HENRY, Glasgow, bookseller, Dec. 22, Jan. 12.

MUNRO, ALEXANDER, Tain, innkeeper, Dec. 20, Jan. 17.

SCOTT, R., Glasgow, draper, Dec. 21, Jan. 11.

YOUNG, PETER, Dundee, merchant, Dec. 18, Jan. 8.

DIVIDENDS.

Thomas Morris, Ivy-cottage, Maida-hill, late of the Gordon Hotel, Covent-garden, first div. of 9d.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—Catherine Elton, 122, Whitechapel, ironmonger, first div. of 7s. 6d.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—Strong and Hosking, Dye-house-wharf, Clink-street, Southwark, coal merchant, second div. of 6d.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—William Dettmer, of 50, Marylebone-street, pianoforte manufacturer, third dividend of 4d. in the pound; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, on any Thursday—Berkley, John, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant, first div. of 3d.; at 21, Royal Arcade, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday—Dethick, Samuel, Newton-heath, near Manchester, common brewer, first div. of 20s.; at 54, George-street, Manchester, any Tuesday—White, Joseph, Exeter, decorative painter, first and final div. of 1s. 6d.; at F. Hernaman's, Paul-street, Exeter, any Tuesday or Friday—Hornsby, George, Lesbury, Northumberland, builder, first and final div. of 4d.; at 21, Royal Arcade, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday—Ferens, James Jackson, and Ferens, Robinson, Durham, drapers, second div. of 6d. (in addition to 4s. previously declared); at T. Baker's, Royal Arcade, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday—Mackenzie, Niel, 77, Newgate-street, City, fringe manufacturer, second div. of 2s. 5d.; at 25, Coleman-street, any Wednesday—Reay, John, jun., and Reay, Henry, 64, Mark-lane, wine merchant, second div. of 2s., and on the separate estate of John Reay, jun., a second div. of 2s. 6d.; at 25, Coleman-street, City, any Wednesday—Turner, Henry, Coventry-street, Haymarket, fishmonger, first div. of 5s. 4d.; at 25, Coleman-street, any Wednesday.

Tuesday, December 19.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—

Independent chapel, Crick, Northamptonshire.
Baptist chapel, Wolstone, Warwickshire.
St. Mary's church, Rugby, Warwickshire.

BANKRUPTS.

BETTY, GEORGE LOCKYER, Taunton, Somersetshire, baker.

COOKE, HENRY DOUGLAS, Liverpool, dealer in paper hangings.

CURRIE, GILBERT, Church-row, Upper-st., Islington, Italian warehouseman.

GOMME, JOHN SHIELDS, Angel-terrace, Hammersmith, cabinetmaker.

MORRISON, JOHN, Beiulieu-hill, Norwood, coal merchant.

TRAILL, JOHN, Brampton, Oxfordshire, corndealer.

UPTON, ROGER, Dawlish, Devonshire, grocer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ANDERSON, W., Leith, merchant, Dec. 26, Jan. 16.

ANGUS, A., Bathgate, merchant, Dec. 28, Jan. 18.

FENTON, JOHNSTON, and Co., Leith, shipowners, Dec. 22, Jan. 15.

LLOYD, B. F., and SIMPSON, H., Edinburgh, wholesale stationers, Dec. 25, Jan. 15.

M'KEAN, S., Fordel, Fifeshire, merchant, Dec. 26, Jan. 16.

PIPER, E., East Craigs, near Edinburgh, coach contractor, Dec. 26, Jan. 15.

WILSON, J., Airdrie, grocer, Dec. 27, Jan. 17.

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Dec. 18.

There was but a moderate show of land-carriage samples of Essex and Kentish Wheat at our market to-day, but an ample supply of foreign Wheat and Flour. The trade ruled dull for all sorts at a decline of 1s. to 2s. on English, and foreign was offered at 1s. lower without meeting many buyers. Flour went off very slowly and rather cheaper. Fine Barley held its price, but middling and inferior qualities were in less request. Malt very dull. Beans and Peas sold heavily, add white Peas 1s. to 2s. cheaper. In Oats no alteration, the best heavy samples being quite as dear, and inferior light sorts as dull sale as possible. In Rye very little doing. Linseed and Cakes move off slowly. We have no demand for Tares or Cloverseed. The current prices as under.

	s.	s.
Wheat—		
Essex, Suffolk, and Kent, Red	36 to	50
Ditto White	38 ..	48
Line., Norfolk, and Yorksh. Red	40 ..	47
Northumber. and Scotch, White	40 ..	45
Ditto Red	38 ..	43
Devon, and Somerset., Red	38 ..	43
Ditto White	42 ..	50
Flour, per sk. (Town)	41 ..	46
Barley	25 ..	33
Scotch	24 ..	29
Malt, Ordinary	52 to	56
Fine	58 ..	60
Rye	28 ..	30
Peas, Hog	33 ..	35
Maple	32 ..	36
Boilers (new)	32 ..	34
Beans, Ticks	30 ..	35
Pigeon	32 ..	33
Harrow	26 ..	36
Oats, Feed	17 ..	21
Fine	22 ..	24
Poland	18 ..	24
Potato	20 ..	25

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR DEC. 9.

Wheat	48s.	9d.
Barley	31	4
Oats	19	5
Rye	28	5
Beans	35	7
Peas	39	3

AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.

Wheat	51s.	0d.
Barley	32	10
Oats	20	3
Rye	30	5
Beans	36	10
Peas	40	1

DUTIES.

	s.	d.			
Wheat	6	0	Rye	2	9
Barley	2	0	Beans	2	0
Oats	2	6	Peas	2	0

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Dec. 18.

The supply of foreign stock on sale here to-day was very moderate, even the time of year considered, and of very middling quality. All breeds were very dull, and the quotations were almost nominal, nearly the whole of the Beasts being turned out unsold. We were again heavily supplied with home-fed Beasts—about one-third of which were the refuse of Monday last—in excellent condition; indeed, with the exception of those from abread, there was scarcely a second-rate Bullock in the market. As most of the butchers had supplied themselves last week, we have again to report a very heavy demand for Beef, at a further decline in the quotations of from 2d. to, in some instances, 4d. per 8 lbs. The market closed heavily in the extreme for Beef, and nearly 1,500 Beasts were not disposed of. Although the supply of Sheep was tolerably good, there was a somewhat improved demand for that description of stock, at fully, but at nothing quotable beyond, the prices paid on Monday last. The primest old Downs were selling at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lbs., and at which a good clearance was effected. Calves, the numbers of which were moderate, moved off steadily, at Friday's advance in prices of from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lbs. There was rather an improved demand for prime small Pigs, at very full currencies; otherwise, the Pork trade was in a sluggish state.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday	1,920	5,240	238	220
Monday	3,763	18,890	174	204

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	3s. 2d. to 4s. 2d.	Veal	4s. 0d. to 5s. 0d.
Mutton	3 0 .. 5 0	Pork	3 10 .. 4 8

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Dec. 11.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcase

Inferior Beef	2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d.		Inf. Mutton	3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.		
Middling do	3 0 .. 3 2		Mid. ditto	3 6 .. 3 8		
Prime large	3 2 .. 3 4		Prime ditto	3 10 .. 4 4		
Prime small	3 6 .. 3 8		Veal	3 10 .. 4 10		
Large Pork	3 6 .. 4 4		Small Pork	4 6 .. 4 8		

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.

Our market in the past week was dull and drooping. We cannot report favourably of the demand for Butter, although we have had a little more doing in Irish at rather lower prices. Foreign, of best quality, sold to limited extent at fair prices, all other sorts nearly neglected.—Bacon.—The dealings in Irish singed sides were few, and prices lower 2s. per cwt. For middles and Berwick cut Pork the demand slow and prices the turn cheaper. American new singed sides and old middles a dull sale. Hams in good demand. Lard very dull.

CHEESE MARKET, Dec. 18.—There has been but a moderate amount of business doing during the past week; the demand has run principally upon fine English and low priced American; of the former, very little can be found, and when any does make its appearance, it will sell readily at fair prices: but for middling and inferior English, no vent can be found. Thin Cheese and loaf are completely at a stand-still; some quantity of American has sold at very low rates in Liverpool, say 28s. to 32s. Very little doing in exportation, prices nominal.

ENGLISH BUTTER MARKET, Dec. 18.—We continue in such a state of inactivity that hardly a sale can be made, although to do so the holders would gladly accept lower prices. The present mild weather brings the Butter market almost to a stand-still. The price of Butter, and indeed of all provisions, is now about 20 per cent. under the price of the last and previous years; nor is there the least chance of improvement for the future. The effects of free trade must now be shown, a fact which ought to be borne in mind by the English dairyman and farmer in taking their dairies and dairy-land for another season. Prices are nominally as under:—Best Dorset, 92s. to 96s. per cwt.; Dorset, stale and middling, 76s. to 84s.; Fresh, 10s. to 13s. per dozen.

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—There was rather an increased supply of Canaryseed to-day; and previous prices were hardly maintained. Quotations of other sorts of Seeds remained nominally unchanged.

BRITISH SEEDS.

Cloverseed, red	30s. to 35s.; fine, 35s. to 36s.; white, 30s to 40s.
Cow Grass [nominal]	—s. to —s.
Linseed (per qr.)	sowing 56s. to 60s.; crushing 42s. to 48s.
Linseed Cakes (per 1,000 of 3lbs. each)	£11 10s. to £12 10s.
Trefoil (per cwt.)	15s. to 21s.
Rapeseed, new (per last)	£27 to £31
Ditto Cake (per ton)	£4 15s. to £5
Mustard (per bushel) white	8s. to 10s.; brown nominal.
Canary (per quarter)	85s. to 90s.; fine 90s. to 100s.
Tares, Winter, per bush	10s. 0d. to 10s. 6d.
Carraway (per cwt.)	28s. to 29s.; new, 30s. to 31s.

FOREIGN SEEDS, &c.

Clover, red (duty 5s. per cwt.) per cwt	28s. to 35s.
Ditto, white (duty 5s. per cwt.) per cwt	22s. to 45s.
Linseed (per qr.)	Baltic 42s. to 46s.; Odessa, 42s. to 46s.
Linseed Cake (per ton)	£8 10s. to £10 10s.
Rape Cake (per ton)	£4 15s. 5d.
Coriander (per cwt.)	16s. to 20s.
Hempseed, small (per qr.)	43s. to 48s.; Do. Dutch, 45s to 47s.
Tares (per qr.)	32s. to 38s.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Dec. 18.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Meadow 48s. to 73s. | Clover 70s. to 94s.
Straw 22s. .. 29s.

WOOL, CITY, Monday, Dec. 18.—The Wool trade was firm again last week, and with a steady business doing. The imports into London have been large since our last. From Sidney 1,042 bales, Port Philip 725 bales, Algoa Bay 493, the Cape 155, Islay 831, Odessa 23, and Germany 102 bales.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET—FRIDAY.

	Bales.
Taken on speculation this year	106,400
" " 1847	286,180
Stock in Liverpool the 31st December, 1847	363,530
" " " 1846	438,970
Forwarded unsold this year	48,890
Ditto, last year	25,110
Increase of import this year as compared with last	473,138
Increase in stock, as compared with last year	46,300
Quantity taken for consumption this year	1,309,700
" " " 1847, same period	1,003,300
Increase of quantity taken for consumption	306,400

SATURDAY.—To-day 5,000 bales have been sold, including 500 American on speculation. Prices have been steady at yesterday's quotations.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Dec. 18.—Very little business is doing in our market, without, however, any alteration in prices since our last report. The supply of fine Hops is very limited.

POTATOES, SOUTHWARK WATERSIDE, Dec. 18.—The arrivals during the past week have been considerable, and lower prices have been submitted to with most samples, except French, the quality of which is so good that they are increasing in consumption, and rising in price, notwithstanding the supply is great. The following are this day's quotations:—Yorkshire Regents, 100s. to 160s; Newcastle and Stockton ditto, 100s. to 130s.; Scotch ditto, 100s. to 130s.; Ditto Cups, 60s. to 90s.; Ditto Reds, 60s. to 80s.; Ditto Whites, 60s. to 80s.; French ditto, 80s. to 100s.; Dutch ditto, 50s. to 70s.

COVENT GARDEN, Monday, December 18.—This morning's market was well supplied with both Fruit and Vegetables at the following prices:—Apples 1s. 3d. to 3s. 6d., Pears 2s. to 6s., Onions 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d., ditto for pickling 2s. to 3s. 6d., Brussels Sprouts 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d., and Spinach 6d. to 10d. per half-sieve; Red Cabbages 1s. 6d. to 4s., Savoys 9d. to 1s. 6d., Celery 6d. to 1s. 9d., and Horseradish 1s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per dozen heads; Turnips 1s. 6d. to 2s., Carrots 3s. to 4s., and Greens 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d. per dozen bunches; Hothouse Grapes 3s. 6d. to 5s., Foreign ditto 9d. to 1s. 6d., Pine Apples 4s. to 5s., and Filberts 1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb.; Oranges 6s. to 12s., Lemons 7s. to 9s. and English Walnuts 1s. to 2s. per hundred; Broccoli 6d. to 1s. per bundle; Mushrooms 6d. to 9d., and Sea Kale 1s. to 6d. to 2s. 6d. per punnet; Spanish Onions 8s. to 10s. per box.

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday, Dec. 18.—A very large quantity of Tallow having arrived from New South Wales and South America, our market has continued to rule excessively heavy since our last report, and the deliveries have fallen off considerably. Prices are quite 6d. per cwt. lower than on Monday last; and the stock exceeds 36,000 casks. P.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 44s. to 43s. 6d. per cwt.; scarcely anything is doing for forward delivery. Town Tallow, 44s. per cwt., net cash; rough fat, 2s. 5d. per 8 lbs.

HIDES, LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 1¼d. to 0d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 1¼d. to 1¾d.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 1¾d. to 2d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 2d. to 2¼d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 2¼d. to 3d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., 3d. to 3¼d.; Calfskins, each, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; Horse hides, 0s. to 8s. 6d.; Polled Sheep, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 10d.; Kents and Half-breds, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; Downs, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 3d.

OILS.—Linseed, per cwt., 22s. 3d.; Rapeseed, English refined, 36s. 6d.; brown, 35s. 6d.; Gallipoli, per tun, £48; Spanish, £47; Sperm, £82 to £85; do. bagged, £82; South Sea, £25 to £27 10s.; Seal, pale, £25 10s.; do. coloured, £23 10s.; Cod £23 15s.; Cocoa nut, per tun, £40 to £42; Palm, £28 to £32 10s. Whale Fins: South Sea, £135 to £140 per ton; North West, £135.

COAL MARKET, Monday, Dec. 18.

The market still continues very heavy, factors holding over rather than take less prices.—Hettons, 18s.; Stewart's, 18s.; Braddylls, 17s. 3d.; Kelloe, 17.; East Hettons, 16s.—Fresh arrivals, 127; left from last day, 67; total, 194.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ILLUSTRATED JUVENILE WORKS FOR PRIZES AND PRESENTS.

Published by WARD and Co., Paternoster-row.

THE TEACHER'S OFFERING for 1848. Illustrated with many Engravings, Music, &c.; forming an elegant and useful juvenile present, 18mo, 1s. 6d. cloth; 1s. 8d. half bound.

The work is published Monthly, price One Penny.

ORIGINAL TALES; or True Stories for my Little Grandchildren. By a Lady. With beautiful Engravings. 18mo, red cloth, 2s. 6d.

THE IRISH SCHOLAR; or Popery and Protestant Christianity. A Narrative. By the Rev. T. W. AVELING. Third Thousand. In 18mo, with frontispiece, 1s. cloth.

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ANIMALS: their FOOD and INSTINCTS. Profusely illustrated with superior Engravings. In square 16mo, 3s. 6d. cloth gilt.

THE YOUTH'S BIBLE CYCLOPÆDIA. Illustrated with 120 new and beautiful Engravings. In square 16mo, 3s. 6d. cloth, extra gilt.

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TRIMMER'S HISTORY of the ROBINS. For the Instruction of Children on the Treatment of Animals. Sixteenth edition, with woodcuts by Bewick, 2s., cloth.

N.B.—This is the only complete edition containing Bewick's beautiful designs.

LIVES of EMINENT SOVEREIGNS of MODERN EUROPE. Written by Lord DOVER, for the instruction and amusement of his son. Second edition, 4s., cloth.

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DRAPER'S BIBLE LIVES; from the History of the New Testament. In two vols, 32mo, 3s, cloth.

DRAPER'S BIBLE STORY BOOK. In two vols., 32mo. First and Second Series. 2s., cloth.

DRAPER'S LIVES of EMINENT YOUTH. Illustrated with numerous Cuts. 32mo, 1s., cloth.

WARD and Co., 27, Paternoster-row.

RELFE'S HOMŒOPATHIC COCOA, improved by the Desiccating Company's process, DAVISON and SYMINGTON Patentees, on a perfectly novel plan, the nut being roasted by hot air, thereby preserving the fine flavour and highly nutritive quality of the cocoa in its fullest extent, and effectually eradicating all those grosser oily particles which have rendered the use of it objectionable to persons of weak digestion. The purity and superiority of this most extraordinary preparation has already secured for it a most extensive and increasing sale among the homœopathic public, being strongly recommended by the most eminent of the faculty to persons of delicate health as far superior to any yet offered to those who desire an economical and agreeable beverage for the breakfast, luncheon, or tea table.—Prepared and sold by JOHN RELFE, No. 4, Gracechurch-street.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Boots and Shoes, soled with this material, being eminently non-conductors of heat, are exceedingly pleasant wear for tender feet, and, however slight the soles, impenetrable by showers or salt water, therefore invaluable to SPORTSMEN, TOURISTS, and VISITORS to the SEA-SIDE.

The idea that atmospheric heat has any detrimental effect upon Gutta Percha is a FALLACY; and in no known instance have soles failed in adhering which may not be ascribed to neglect of the Company's printed directions.

The more recent productions in Gutta Percha are elaborate cornices, highly enriched console tables, mouldings, panelings, picture frames, &c., in every variety of finish and relief, dessert services, flower vases, fountains, inkstands, medallions, buckets, bowls, bottles, paper weights, pen trays, &c. Tubing of all sizes from one-eighth of an inch to four inches in diameter. For lining cisterns, sinks, galvanic troughs and batteries, Gutta Percha offers innumerable advantages; and being impervious to water, unaffected by acids, alkalies, &c., it may fairly be said to be the discovery of the age. May be had of the GUTTA PERCHA COMPANY, 18, Wharf-road, City-road, and of any of their wholesale dealers.

COALS.—R. S. DIXON, Providence Wharf, Belvedere-road, Lambeth, having contracted with the Marquis of Londonderry and others, for Best Walls End Coals, can sell a genuine article as cheap as any house in the trade; having ships of his own, constructed to lower their masts and come above bridge, and deliver alongside his wharf, several of which are larger than ever known to come through the bridges, by which he saves nearly two shillings per ton in lighterage, breakage, and ships delivery in the pool. The coals come of a much better size than when turned over the ship's side into barges in the pool, and they being always dry, do not slack in the cellar as those which have been exposed to the weather.

He has ships at his wharf nearly always, and invites families to come and judge for themselves.

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It contains thirty-two closely printed pages, the same size as the Christian's Penny Magazine, and Chambers's Tracts. It is intended, in several important respects, to improve the Magazine next year.

The January number will contain articles by the Revs. J. P. Mursell, of Leicester; Dr. Burns, of Paddington; J. J. Brown, of Reading; J. A. Baynes, of Nottingham; James Smith, of New Park-street, London, &c. &c.; also by Mrs. C. L. Balfour, author of "Moral Heroism," &c. &c.

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It contains sixteen pages, the same size as the Christian's Penny Magazine, and Chambers's Tracts. Its price is NE HALFPENNY.

The January number will contain, besides other piece an article by THE LABOURER'S DAUGHTER, Authoress of 'The Pearl of Days."

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THE CONGREGATIONAL YEAR-BOOK for 1848 will be published on the 1st of January, 1849, price One Shilling. It will be delivered to the booksellers in time for distribution with the January magazines. Its contents and plan will be the same as in the two former years, except that, as the publication of a separate calendar will not be repeated, the Year-Book will contain a Calendar department, intended simply for the denominational convenience of purchasers. This not being designed to answer all the uses of an almanack, will not be connected with the usual miscellanous information given in such works. But the interesting articles of Religious Intelligence, and Statistics, hitherto given in the Congregational Calendar, will now be distributed under proper heads in the Year-Book.

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